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'INNOVATIVE,' SELF-HELP HOUSING SCHEME MAKING 'REMARKABLE' PROGRESS

London WEST AFRICA in English No 3425, 4 Apr 83 pp 837-838

[Article by Howard Schissel: "Building for the Future"]

[Text] An innovative self-help housing scheme designed to help solve Mauritania's pressing housing problems is making remarkable progress in the town of Rosso.

SITUATED some 250 kilometres south of Nouakchott on the Senegal River, Rosso is a town of about 26,000 inhabitants which, along with other urban areas in Mauritania, has mushroomed in the past ten years. Out of the total Rosso population, 11,500 live in tent shanty towns and huts in the Satara *bidonville* north of the city, 6,000 in the self-built and totally under-equipped infra-urban area of Njoubel in the east, while the remaining third live in proper city areas. It was in Satara that the Association for the Development of Traditional African Urbanism and Architecture (ADAUA), a dynamic pan-African non-government organisation (NGO) based in Ouagadougou, chose to implant its pilot project.

Until a specialised ADAUA team composed of architects, sociologists, building technicians and engineers moved into the *bidonville* in 1977 to study ways and means of solving urban ills, Satara resembled other poorly equipped and over-populated shanty towns in sub-Saharan Africa. For example, rubbish piling up in streets created ideal conditions for the propagation of tapeworm and other parasites which afflicted three out of four Satara children. In addition, flies swarming over the rubbish heaps are another important disease vector. If the whole population suffered, children were particularly weakened and made vulnerable to otherwise benign dis-

eases as measles. Likewise, stagnant pools of water led to mass, and often fatal, outbreaks of malaria.

Poor housing was also a bane. Overheating in rooms of cement blocks covered with metal roofing (and even worse huts built entirely of corrugated metal sheet) aggravated the state of dehydration in children suffering from diarrhoea, an all too common scourge, and accelerated the fatal outcome of this illness. The Satara dispensary, until recently, recorded an average of one death by dehydration a fortnight among children.

The thought that the recently settled nomadic population could be returned to its ancestral way of life quickly evaporated for the ADAUA team. An inquiry in 1977 among the *bidonville* dwellers revealed that 96 per cent in Satara declared themselves unwilling to return to their place of origin, even if good rains were to return. Suddenly the nomads were nomads no longer, and this was not just a physical reality but also a psychological one. If secondary cities like Rosso are incapable of integrating former nomads, they will eventually drift up to Nouakchott in search of a livelihood, thereby further exacerbating the misery and hopelessness in the capital. The Rosso experience is a capital example that minimum amenities and a decent standard of living can be provided for the swelling number of urbanised Mauritians.

Until 1978 the inhabitants of Satara, a frequently flooded area, were threatened by an expulsion order and forcible removal to a site some seven kilometres away from the city. For example, in the wake of particularly severe flooding in 1977 the government ordered the armed forces to remove all huts by lorry. Some weeks later, however, the *bidonville* had been rebuilt on the same site. After renewed flooding in 1978, the Satara population, with ADAUA's assistance, cleaned up what was once an unhealthy area. 400 shanty town inhabitants built a three kilometre-long dyke and dug about 3,000 metres of canals. This effort finally put an end to the threat of floods and restored confidence within the community, demonstrating that could come to grips with its own problems.

The ADAUA team then set out to work, originally patterning their goals on the realisations of Egyptian architect and town-planner Hassan Fathi. They studied local architectural traditions, capacity for technology absorption, renewable and low cost materials for building and, most importantly, the needs and aspirations of the *bidonville* inhabitants in the field of housing. Seeking to gain the confidence of the population, the ADAUA team held many explanatory meetings to discuss the formation of self-help building brigades as well as a community savings organisation to financially assist those desirous of building their own housing units.

ADAUA officials are convinced that it is not necessary to build poor housing for the poor in Africa, or elsewhere in the third world. They think, in fact, that attractive low cost housing can be put in the reach of the majority if self-reliant development methods are utilised. Satara, then, was a crucible for ADAUA's philosophy, as it was put to a test in extremely difficult conditions.

A prototype housing unit was first built in 1979, enabling ADAUA technicians to experiment with local building materials, train masons and test a number of different architectural forms. A special effort was made to employ labour intensive methods, creating the maximum number of jobs and cutting down to the minimum the amount of energy and capital input required. Instead of cement blocks, bricks of stabilised earth containing only 6 per cent cement were manufactured at a brick-making unit set up in the *bidonville*. By the same token,

it was decided to build the houses with domes, in order to eliminate the need for expensive metal or wooden roofing. Also, special systems of natural ventilation were worked out.

The building site was then divided into 1,200 plots, which the government sold at a nominal price to potential home builders. The scheme was put to a severe trial at this time when the local traditional ruler, Amir H'bib, demanded that a third of the plots be allocated to his followers. Subtle diplomatic intercession by top government officials in Nouakchott happily enabled this crisis to be ironed out.

This reporter first visited the Satara project in 1979-1980, when the first series of 12 prototype houses was built. I found the idea tantalising but raised serious questions with ADAUA officials as to the chances the project could go forward without massive speculation on real estate, favouring salaried bureaucrats and traders to the detriment of the poor. The ADAUA team was fully cognizant of potential obstacles in the way of a successful project, but stressed that only time would determine the outcome.

Indeed, enthusiasm to improve living conditions was evident at that period among Satara dwellers, especially the women. If on a national basis only 9 per cent of households are headed by women, this figure was an astounding 70 per cent in Satara. This was the result of men having joined the armed forces (during the period of Mauritania's participation in the Western Saharan conflict) and the social particularities of harratines (former slaves). The full weight of mobilisation of the women was striking in the constitution of self-help construction groups, which on the average are made up of 30 per cent women. One such group was even entirely composed of women.

It was thus with great interest that I revisited Satara at the beginning of 1983. To my pleasant surprise the entire physiognomy of the *bidonville* was altered. Instead of the 12 prototypes I saw just three years ago, there were now 750 ADAUA-style houses built, in which some 4,500 people resided. The streets were clean and dry. The psychological mutation was also remarkable. No children came running up to the visitor requesting money. Satara dwellers were also proud of their achievements, and rightly so.

In 1980, the cost of building at Satara was some 4,500 ouguiya (about £45) per square metre, a figure which has been shaved down at present to just 3,500 ouguiya. The last imported material has been eliminated from the construction process, as local blacksmiths started to manufacture the metal hinges and other metallic parts for the houses. At the same time, the cost of building in Mauritania utilising classical Western-style techniques continued to rise by an average of 15 per cent a year. One of the most interesting phenomenon was the linking of the Satara scheme to the rural areas. Discarded rice chaff is now used to fire the ovens which make the bricks, thereby eliminating the need for fuel oil. In calory value, a kilo of rice chaff equals a third of a litre of fuel oil. Not only does this cutdown the cost of making bricks, but it, more importantly, enables the farmers to be remunerated for a product previously discarded. "We have now reached an interesting and critical stage," commented Serge Theunyck, a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) architect working with the Satara project, "because in a certain way we have succeeded in reversing the flow of wealth from the countryside to the towns, as urban development actually contributes to upgrading rural revenues."

The site has also remained amazingly free of land speculation. "Rosso is not Nouakchott, so the privileged classes are not so interesting in moving in," says Theunyck. He goes on to add, "the lesson from Satara is that this sort of scheme is best designed for the secondary towns where pressure on living space is less

intense than in the capital, where such a project would inevitably be recuperated by the ruling elite."

Theunyck admits that until now the Satara project has principally benefited those *bidonville* dwellers with a minimum of social insertion and monetary income. "The rock bottom poor are in a desperate situation spending their meagre incomes on food so they have no surplus to channel into housing," he underlines. Nonetheless, Theunyck reckons that up to three-quarters of the Satara population could eventually be encompassed by the project.

To surpass the sectoral approach hitherto employed, the Satara team has devised an integrated development scheme involving education, health, cattle raising, agriculture and village technologies. The Satara population is being associated with the inhabitants of 15 neighbouring villages, in total some 27,000 people, to work on a project designed to link rural endeavours with urban needs. Thus, the poorest of the *bidonville* dwellers will be provided with land to give them the opportunity to earn money and thus eventually become a home builder. As building accelerates more rural products will be integrated into construction methods.

The Satara scheme certainly is not a panacea for Mauritania's housing dilemma. It does show, however, that a forlorn population can be mobilised to sort out its own existence and the value of local techniques and raw material rehabilitated in the eyes of the participants. In this, the Satara experience is exemplary and perhaps indicates the path which other African states would be wise to study.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION LARAKI DISCUSSES EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Rabat AL-'ALAM AL-SIYASI in Arabic Feb 83 p 18-22

[Interview with Dr Azzedine Laraki, minister of national education; date and place not given]

[Text] An interview with brother Dr Azzedine Laraki is interesting and rewarding because he always relies on simultaneously comprehensive and realistic thinking.

This is why AL-'ALAM AL-SIYASI's editorial staff made an appointment for an interview with Dr Laraki. The interview lasted for some time and we offer here a summary of it, noting that all portions are given almost verbatim and that the editorial staff has not intervened much to rephrase, so as to preserve the language of the dialogue in all its warmth and spontaneity.

[Question] AL-'ALAM AL-SIYASI's interview this month is with Dr Azzedine Laraki. We hope to get from him a picture of the Moroccan of the future and of how the educational system should train him to qualify for dealing with the three worlds that constitute the three dimensions of the Moroccan personality, meaning the Arab and Islamic world, the European world and Africa.

[Answer] I believe that Morocco is currently going through a turning point in the direction of its education in the broad sense, not only in technological education but also in education as an amalgam of factors forming the young Moroccan personality. In negotiating this turning point, Morocco proceeds on the basis of a deep-seated asset that perhaps makes Morocco unique among countries making their way toward the future. We should not overlook the intellectual asset that is deeply rooted in the Moroccan conscience between it is a cultural asset that, through it may weaken at times, resurfaces as soon as it is taught and as soon as there is a catalyst to bring it to the surface again. This is a very important characteristic in which Morocco is nearly unique among Third World countries. Here, I agree with the brothers who recall the past. Morocco has a long-standing educational tradition. At the same time, this tradition is now considered a model for what the educational system should be. One aspect of the issue is the book and Morocco's experience with the book is a great experience because, first, it is built on what is now called preschool education. Morocco is deep-rooted in this experience; this experience is built on memorization, the indicator educators

use nowadays, considering that development of the memory is a part of intelligence; and it has been neuro-physiologically proven that the brain cells are linked to each other and that they do not perform their functions unless activated at an early age. If this is not done, these cells remain idle forever. We have the proof of this because it is well known that Moroccans used to memorize the Koran, thousands of the prophet's Hadiths, in their order of appearance, Sidi Khalil and Lamiyat al-Af'al, all because their specialized brain cells were activated at an early age. There are those who say that these cells must be activated even before birth, meaning that the embryo can be influenced during pregnancy in a manner that benefits after birth.

Second, the educational system adopted by al-Qarawinyun [University] and others like it was based primarily on the student's self-reliance. The student prepared his lesson before appearing before the teacher and appeared before the teacher only when he encountered something too difficult for him to understand on his own. That system was also based on continuing development, meaning that a person would be a teacher but would, at the same time, receive instruction from a more learned man, thus continuing to develop. Also, qualifications were not based on organized and uniform certificates but on a recognized license that was tantamount to an acknowledgement by the teacher that the student became his equal in knowledge. It was a known tradition among them that the teacher would tell his student that he had nothing more to teach him and that he had taught him everything he himself had learned.

Another thing is that the Moroccan university and professor were fused in the quarter or the city where they lived, so that the universities served the society in which they existed and there was always interaction between the university and society. The university was truly independent, meaning that it had no connection with the government. However, there were symbolic annual rewards, called al-silah, given by the king to the scholars. The people took care of the needs of the scholars who taught them. Moreover, there were the university houses, which were concerned with fundamental enlightenment. The professor or the intellectual, regardless of his level, would go among the populace in the morning or in the late afternoon to teach them what used to be called "the principles of religion that had to be learned" or what is nowadays called basic education pertaining to religious dealings and affairs of worship. This asset cannot be overlooked and is deep-rooted in the souls of the Moroccans. This kind of education was not confined to one group of people to the exclusion of others. Naturally, there was al-Qarawiyun. But this model was also present in Tafilalat in the north, in Marrakesh and in the religious shrines, such as al-Dalatiyah and al-Nasiriyah shrines and others in the Sahara. The model was present everywhere. Of course, we should not exaggerate in this respect because this type of education was basic education built fundamentally on (elitism), in the benevolent sense of the word, meaning that only those with obvious qualifications for higher education would pursue such education.

The university was tantamount to a center for an intellectual aristocracy entered only by those who were qualified for it. But there was something to balance this aristocracy. Where it concerned what is nowadays called general

education, everybody, no matter how important he was, learned a skill. A man would be a carpenter and go to al-kuttab [village schools mainly for teaching Koran] or be a tailor or any kind of craftsman and still go to al-kuttab. People and his family would watch to see how well he developed and whether he was qualified to continue and pursue his education. If he couldn't then at least he learned a trade. This was a great accomplishment. Therefore, one can say that the Moroccan is proceeding on the basis of an intellectual and cultural legacy and great traditions insofar as the future is concerned. What is the future picture? We must realize that all people concerned with future possibilities say that a person who participates in future developments must be armed with the highest degree of learning. Those destined to succeed in the future are the ones equipped with the highest degree of learning. In this regard in particular, I believe that Morocco is advancing on the basis of its unique experience. This unique experience is evident in the sphere of higher education. How? The overwhelming majority of nations puts a barrier between high school education and higher education, meaning that their university policy is based on a form of selectivity. Some establish this policy on the basis of tests and others on the basis of grades earned by the student in the high school stage. There are those who establish this policy on a modern basis whereby the student candidate is interviewed for hours by a group of professors to determine his suitability for higher education. What is important is that in the Eastern socialist countries one out of seven high school graduates enters the university. The same ratio of 1:7 also applies to the United States. In Third World countries, such as Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Saudi Arabia, restrictions have been established for university enrollment. Few of the Third World countries have no such restrictions. Morocco has established no such restrictions. There was an attempt but the people objected to it. The university is open to every high school graduate. This is the first advantage. The second advantage is this demographic flow into the university. The countries that have restricted university enrollment are in a state of decline demographically and developmentally. If they have not achieved a balance, then they are declining demographically. In Morocco, the door has been left open, even though the country is experiencing a large growth in population. In higher education, the growth rate is 20 percent annually. This means that the number of university students doubles every 5 years. The third factor is that despite these numbers, Morocco offers a higher education grant to whoever has finished high school, and this is something unmatched in the world. Morocco has been following this course since 1970 and is now reaping its fruits. But in what form? In the sense that the Moroccan university reflects the Moroccan society as it is, in the sense that the overwhelming majority of the Moroccan university students and university graduates is from the poor classes and in the sense that the university is an accurate reflection of Moroccan society. This characteristic is unique to Morocco because universities in all countries of the world are confined to a special group. The French worker rarely gets to go to university. This is something that we must know. The European worker rarely gets to enroll in a university. In the American countries, fees are imposed on students and the poor cannot enter the university. The thing that distinguishes Morocco is this quiet revolution inside the university itself. One of every three in the university is a woman. In the field of education and education personnel, the national percentage of women employees

is 40 percent. But in major cities, the percentage of women working in the field of education may rise to 70-80 percent. This is a revolution that will have a great impact on Moroccan youth. So this is what distinguishes the present situation. Consequently, there are two ways to create an elite in the country, both the elite running the country's affairs and the elite that will take over from it in the future. There is the means of selection used in the countries that adopt the principle of selection and there is the second means, namely broadening the selection base in the university and then leaving matters to life and to the survival of the fittest. This means that we graduate 1,000 architects and then leave it for the fittest among them, be they 20 or 100, to survive. What is important and fundamental about the second means is that the first means selects on a purely technical basis whereas the second includes a fundamental factor, namely, that it is not the best technician who is destined to succeed but the person who is morally best because he will be judged by his actions and conduct in life.

He is judged in the light of how he lives. The intellectual factor does, of course, enter into this conduct. But the ethical, in its sublime sense, is also involved. A person who behaves well in society is destined to succeed. Such success is not guaranteed in the first method, which is based on selection at the outset and at the point of enrollment in the university, because it takes into consideration the technical element only. Therefore, Morocco starts in this respect with a very great advantage.

The other indicator is that this is happening in Morocco while we are approaching an intellectual, developmental and cultural revolution, the information revolution. Morocco now has enough inroads to embark on this revolution through the front door because it has the frameworks. Morocco can embark on this revolution without going through the conventional industrial revolution. It can enter while the rest of the world is waiting to surpass the industrial revolution before entering the information revolution. Morocco will embark on this revolution with greater chances because the information revolution is compatible with its traditions and because the heavy industry revolution has caused the breakdown of the family. As soon as men and women enter the factory, they are separated all day and they may or may not meet. Thus, the family breaks down. All the catastrophes afflicting the advanced world at present stem from this. It is what has caused so-called libertinism. This is strange and alien to the Moroccan, who has never been involved with it. Meanwhile, all experts say that the coming revolution, namely, the information revolution, will make it possible to return to production units that are much smaller than those in major factories and will bring back production units that are at the level of small towns and villages. There are even those who expect that this revolution will enter the home anew and that homes will become production units, meaning that both men and women will contribute to production while staying home among their families. This recalls what Morocco and the Moroccan culture experienced when families in Fez, Marrakesh and (Tetouan), for example, contributed to production. All homes were production units. Women did embroidery and produced women's belts, buttons, woollen and silk products and other goods. The goods were inspected by a "master craftsman" who visited the homes to purchase the goods produced by women working in their homes. In this way, the family remains cohesive. This

is the type of production unit to which all mankind is expected to return, proceeding on the basis of the information revolution that the world has already entered. Morocco is qualified to embark on this revolution, contrary to the past when it lagged behind and wasted its opportunity to participate in the great industrial revolution, which Japan embraced.

[Question] You started with the Moroccan model and with the educational transformation our country is undergoing. You then discussed the educational system or the deep-rooted educational traditions in Morocco and moved to the present educational system. You then painted for us a picture of what society will be in the future. Proceeding on the basis of the first question, namely, that Morocco is qualified to play a role in the future by virtue of its position, history and message, which it is destined to perform--proceeding on this basis, how can we diagnose the ideal system for preparing the man of the future society, as you have depicted it, to perform this future role within the framework of the society you have defined?

[Answer] First, it is certain that as in the past, school is only one factor in the training of man. The future Moroccan cannot depend on school alone as the basis of his training. Efforts must be consolidated so that the school will become one of several elements that unite to train the Moroccan individual.

What are these elements? Basically, they are the family. In addition to the school, there is the family. Here, we must remember that the negative elements that coalesced in the past to weaken the training will turn upside down. When the father and the mother are educated, the family contributes to training in practical ways. The family no longer abandons its role as it did in the past because the basic education has a positive impact on the family's makeup and development.

The second factor is that manual skills must be included within the framework of our training. One philosopher has said, "man thinks because he has two hands." Therefore, those who believe in the theory of evolution say that this means that mankind became mankind when it stopped walking on all fours and when its hands were freed, thus making it possible to use these hands. He stood erect and with this stance, his brain developed and he used his hands. This was followed by yet greater brain and intellectual development. This is why we must rely on manual skills. These skills are a part of the legacy that Morocco has and others don't. How are these skills displayed in our present society? In my opinion, they are displayed in agriculture and in the traditional industries. There are many societies that do not know agriculture and have no manual industry.

This legacy of manual skills in Morocco must not be wasted, because if it is, God forbid, Morocco will need generations to regain it. Such a loss cannot be regained by way of the school because if a man no longer knows how to prune a tree and how to graft and irrigate it, then no matter what you teach him at school, even for 20 years, he will not be able to make up for this deficiency.

Thus, one of the factors is the inclusion of manual labor. This labor must not be the same in all schools but must adapt to the environment in which it exists.

The third point is that the information technologies [al-i'ilamiyat] are an instrument and not a science and we must not view them as an independent science, the way we view mathematics, physics, chemistry or geography. We must view them as applications. This is true of electronic computers. These computers will contribute by providing or adding a new dimension to the instruments of education in the school and at home.

With such development, I believe Morocco will be qualified to preserve its fundamental Arab, Islamic and African role and its ties to Europe in the north, to Africa in the west and to Latin America, fundamentally because America's future is in Latin America not in North America. All people concerned with the future say this future belongs to Latin America.

[Question] I sense from your review that we have good educational traditions that served in the period in which they existed and that we have a good legacy which has its impact, especially the absence of obstacles in the path to higher education, to which you have referred. But I wonder why these good and strong traditions have not permitted Moroccans to interact with the changes that have taken place nearby. These traditions did not prevent the old Morocco from retreating into isolation. Moulay Soleiman once said: The problems we have with other peoples keep on exposing our weaknesses. Therefore, we have to retreat into isolation. He abolished our fleet because it caused us problems with other peoples. Whoever reads the book "Al-Istiqsa" will find that it speaks of the French revolution as if it were some kind of a heresy and that it considers talk of equality between the ruler and the ruled a heresy when examining the French bourgeois revolution and similar revolutions that opened broad horizons for world thinking. So how come those good traditions did not protect our old Morocco (the Morocco of 200 years ago) from slipping into the pitfall, even though it is necessary for Morocco to interact with its environment? The good examples we have is the "challenge" about which his majesty the king has spoken, saying that Morocco's roots are in Africa, and this is true because all of the historical movements have come from the south, and its leaves are in Europe and the Breeze of the east blows on it and refreshes this tree. How come these strong traditions did not protect Morocco from falling into the isolation into which we fell?

[Answer] I believe that a distinction must be made between any system as a system and its content. When I mentioned the system in force, I did mention it as a system or as a method. I observe that this is the system followed by the educationally most advanced countries in the world. The system I have mentioned is the system adopted by the United States, the most advanced country in the field of education. There remains the content. The content changes, of course. The structure is either complete or deficient, depending on the content of the system. Within this framework, I can say that the content in existence in the post-classical age still enabled Morocco to produce excellent jurists, philologists and men of letters. This is because of the content of the educational system of those days. If this content were applied to modern sciences it would produce the same results that it produced in the traditional sciences of the Koran, the Hadith and philology.

You have asked why this system didn't protect us. The educational system alone is not enough. As I have said, the school is only one of the factors in the structure. It is my opinion that Morocco made a mistake when it did not adopt the industrial revolution from the start and when it failed to adopt the steam engine. This is what led to Morocco's self-isolation because it weakened it militarily. At a time when the balance of power was measured by swords, horses, gunpowder and courage, Morocco was equal to what events required. The final proof of this was the battle of Wadi al-Makhazin. But when the world entered the industrial revolution, the age of steam and of the steam engine and Morocco lagged behind, the balance was upset and Morocco weakened militarily, and the decision for isolation to which you have referred was made. When man becomes isolated, this isolation encloses him completely, and when he closes one door, he is compelled to close all doors.

These observations that you have made do not seek to establish a standard but rather try to draw attention to the need to review some concepts [enacted in some provisions]. But the final observation refers to the concept expressed by George Lukache--a concept that takes the form of what he calls the "present tailend" of what is outdated or what is on its way to extinction. (We find the same concept expressed by Mobassan, who absorbed Balzac's, Fleubert's and other 19th century novelists' analyses of French society's legacy. Mobassan's stories are, in his view, an epilogue referring to miscellaneous things of that kind.)

[Question] What I sought with this question is to underline a point in your answer in which you said that the educational system alone is not the decisive thing. I may build another question on this point, namely: In the future, can we imagine that the Ministry of Education will continue to be the only agency in charge of education or will it be one of the elements selecting an educational system that must be compatible with preparing the national soil? This is a new concept, which we still reject but which will impose itself in the future, along with planning. With the statement reiterated in your speeches about linking education to work and life, can we imagine that the Ministry of Education, which is the best name for it at present, will continue to be an isolated island or will it be included within the framework of a general economic and social option?

[Answer] If Morocco develops in the manner we all desire, the [various] agencies and groups should be entrusted with organizing education according to the needs and particulars that the citizens experience or will experience in the future. This will be very beneficial because, first, it will put an end to the unjustifiable dependence in Morocco, namely, dependence on the state. I say this very frankly because we must not depend on the state. Such dependence poses a danger to the state and to the individual. The danger to the state is that the sector formed by the students, teachers and professors will, in my opinion, form the fourth authority. There is a legislative authority, an executive authority and a judicial authority, and they will form a fourth authority, which is a dangerous authority by virtue of its numbers and its weight. It is also dangerous by virtue of its actions, which will emanate from an irresponsible position because such actions are basically carried out by an irresponsible side, namely, children, teenagers,

and youth. Therefore, it is better for the educational system to be province-oriented [jahawi] and local so that it can be perceived and defined by the people concerned with the matter, can be compatible with the needs of the environment in which it exists and so that an end can be put to this dependence on the state--dependence which, in my opinion, is in nobody's interest.

[Question] You have said that the future belongs to Latin America. How do we prepare the right citizen to deal with Latin America and with all foreign entities?

[Answer] First, by way of education, and education at the highest level. I always emphasize that the future belongs to the high level in all the arts and specializations. Then, Morocco will impose intellectual cooperation at this level with all countries. Morocco will give and take at the highest level and that will be cooperation, because in sound cooperation there is a balance between what man gives and takes.

Second, on the basis of learning and mastering the language, of course. Insofar as Latin America is concerned, the teaching of Spanish must be given a big part in the effort to teach foreign languages in our country. Insofar as all foreign languages, especially Spanish, are concerned, we have qualifications and facilities that are probably not available to other countries.

[Question] We want to settle a few things before we move to another subject because Dr Laraki, as is evident from his statements, is very optimistic and we must guard against this optimism, considering that the information technologies are also a revolution linked to the other side--the side that started the industrial revolution and achieved and mastered it--that can give it to anybody it wants and withhold it from anybody it wants. This is a situation that will also face us. We will gain skills to use these technologies but we may not be able to use these skills and will remain tied to the other side, which will always pose a complete intellectual challenge. In the past, we faced this challenge with self-isolation, and there followed what we might call a defeat--the occupation and similar events. It is in this context that I want the optimism to be guarded.

[Answer] You have put your finger on a main point that is the focus of all countries of the world, including the countries that consider themselves advanced countries. This point is the so-called north-south dialogue and so forth. This subject is the focus of attention of numerous international circles. One of the subjects of discussion at the latest UNESCO conference was that of information technologies specifically. It is my humble opinion that the cost of these calculators, embodied in the information machines, is small and that the more this field develops, the smaller the cost will become. The problem of the electronic computer no longer exists because one can buy one for 200,000 or 300,000 centimes. The specialists assert that the cost will continue to drop. The commodity whose price will rise is the information mentality. This is why I have stressed that Morocco must enter this sphere from the front door and at the highest level insofar as logic, science and information technology, as a science, are concerned. Of

all the specializations on which mankind has embarked, these are the arts closest to intellectual professional training, even though the competition between them is inherent. Therefore, the future belongs to this science [of information technology] because it is built the same way the animal brain cell, including man's, is built. It is the science that will control the other sciences in the future. This is what has urged us to include it as a basic subject and to prepare higher institutes to deal with it.

[Question] What has motivated me to bring up the issue is the advanced minds that have appeared in the Third World but have not been absorbed by their world, thus being forced to emigrate where their developed intellect can be utilized.

[Answer] There is a technological environment that is necessary for the specialized human mind to flourish. A man who cannot find this environment will not flourish. This environment is not a matter of change but must be created. Morocco can create a technological environment on one basis only, namely, by proceeding from what it masters and not by aspiring to import ready-made technologies to introduce into its environment.

What things does the Moroccan master? Here, let me return to origins. These things are agriculture and the traditional industries. Therefore, the progression must start by developing and using modern means in the traditional industries and agriculture. The countries that have succeeded in industrialization are the ones that proceeded on the basis of what they master and produce. Switzerland, for example, has the watch industry, which is a traditional industry that the Swiss learned how to develop, improve, master and turn into an industry in the modern sense of the word. Therefore, Morocco, with its agricultural skill, must proceed from agriculture, as well as its skill in traditional industries. Let me stress here this aspect of traditional industry. Try to imagine with me what this industry could become if an engineer emerged and reexamined just the posture in which the rug maker sits--an unstraight posture--and looked into ways to improve this posture and probed scientifically ways to increase the number of stitches per square centimeter by 10 percent, thus making it possible to gradually approach the Iranian rug industry, which has 10 times more stitches per square centimeter than we do. There are also the rug designs, patterns and colors to be considered.

[Question] I have a final point on the issue you have discussed, namely, that Morocco has the advantage whereby any high school graduate can enroll in the university and there are no barriers such as those in the Soviet Union, the United States or other countries. This flow into the university may delay the development of the desired elite because the flow affects the scientific research resources and ultimately gives us a large number of university graduates among whom it is difficult to discover those who excel.

[Answer] The contrary is what will happen. This is because there are two ways to select the elite: either select them at the time of enrollment in the university or by way of the "survival of the fittest" as a broad selective base. This is an unprecedented experiment in the world. I am optimistic

about it. We must be deliberate. We will conclude our lessons from this experiment in the next 10 years. Before the end of the century, Morocco, and all the institutions concerned with education in the world along with it, will determine the lesson from this unique experiment. In my latest meeting with World Bank officials--a meeting that lasted 2 hours--I told them that advanced training has its positive results and ramifications for the educational phases preceding it, namely, high school and higher education. For example, we will soon be able to dispense with foreigners teaching in the (high school) stage because we will employ university graduates [al-mujazin] to teach in the first year of high school in the next few years, whereas we have been using elementary school teachers for years to teach in high schools.

Within few years, Morocco will employ university graduates to teach in the first year of high school. This is a great thing and its positive results will be reflected in enhanced standards and operation. You sensed my optimism without my expressing it clearly. So let me say it and assert it: I am optimistic regarding Morocco.

[Question] Within the context of the future man's dialogue with the worlds surrounding him, what is the role of Arabization in this chain?

[Answer] Arabization's role in this chain is fundamental, first, for conveying concepts because concepts cannot reach the mind of children and youths correctly unless conveyed in the mother tongue. This is something in which specialists, be they educators or neuro-physiologists, have come to believe. This is so true that people with no independent language have started thinking of creating such a language out of the local dialect they speak because with such a dialect, they understand concepts better than in a foreign language.

Second, there is no way to develop the Arabic language except through Arabization in the school because through this Arabization we will convey to the minds concepts that cannot enter them at all at present. A foreign-educated person cannot express such concepts as Bissectrice, imediatrice or Aide ribomitrique in Arabic. When speaking in Arabic, he completely excludes from his mind every concept that he cannot express in Arabic. He thus falls short, not only conceptually but also linguistically. This is asserted by many philosophers, who say that the word precedes the thought. Without the word, there is no existence for the thought. Therefore, Arabization is fundamental and we must take into consideration that it is fundamental for the basic stages of training. But we must also acknowledge that there is now, and perhaps only temporarily, an international language for scientific concepts, namely, English, which has been the forerunner in scientific concepts and has thus imposed itself. Second, had the United States not taken the economic torch from Britain when England's star began to wane, English would not have the status it presently has. Language is one of the elements of civilization. Both thought and economy contribute to civilization. This is why Arabic must be supported by an economic renaissance, in addition to the scientific renaissance, so that it can regain the position it once held. This is something whose door we are destined to enter, regardless of circumstances and even if we stumble entering it. No matter how (determined we are) we will stumble. But the important thing is to enter

this door and to aspire to regain our economic position. At one time, the Arabs controlled all of the trade routes in the world and all its trade. Arabic was the language of science, of trade and of commerce. The world's predominant language, now English, may become Japanese or Korean or the language of a smaller country in the future. In this case, we must not retreat to self-isolation because our language is not the number one language in the world. Otherwise, what could Yugoslavia say, a country with seven ministates, each with its own language which is the basis of its education? Is the Belgian language (Flemish) an international language? Is Italian an international language? In the phase of basic education, all peoples use their own language. Thereafter, there are horizons and dimensions the country's language cannot reach and so we reach them with a language temporarily predominant, which happens to be English at present, as it was Latin or Arabic at one time or another.

[Question] What is the difference between the Arabization applied in Morocco and the Arabization applied in the Arab countries, which have reached the point of losing their Arabic language, as proven by the mistakes and errors we hear from our brothers in the east. These countries have also lost every foreign language. Is anything of the sort expected to happen to Morocco? As long as you have spoken of English as a language containing the greatest amount of data and as the number one language for conveying science and technology, what do you consider necessary to make this language available as a main language in our schools? As long as we are talking about Arabization, what do you think of the Moroccan bedouin who is remote from all that you have mentioned by virtue of his economic environment and of the weakness or unavailability of education where he lives? Even if education is made available to him in the desert, he remains at the end of the caravan when when he goes to the city for education.

[Answer] The difference between the countries of the Arab East and Morocco is that historically, the Arab East lost Arabic throughout the Ottoman rule. This is something many people are not aware of. Nobody, neither in the administration nor in schools, knew Arabic during the Ottoman rule because both the administration and the schools were dominated by Turkish. Therefore, it is not surprising that that Arabic language standard has weakened in the east but not in Morocco. Despite the presence of non-Arab tribes, Morocco has continued to be the nursemaid of Arabic. Many people know that Muhammad 'Abduh could not write Arabic well and that he used to give whatever he wrote in Arabic to a Moroccan originally from Shanqit to correct his writings in Arabic.

Thus, these are transient issues connected with the educational standard and with the impact of the modern information media. Radio and television play a fundamental role in linguistic talents in every country because when the announcer, actor or orator speaks correctly, this means that he has implanted the right trait in the minds of the youth. When advertising [al-ishhar] itself is done in proper language, it has a greater impact on people's minds than school or university. This is why I have said that these are complementary efforts. School alone is not enough to educate. Family efforts and efforts by significant modern means must unite to entrench the language.

The second point is that language teaching has witnessed great progress in its methods, which have made it so easy to teach languages. But it remains to point out that it is very difficult for any country to be bilingual if both the first and second languages are not used at home. What is the meaning of bilingualism in its true sense? It means one's ability to shift spontaneously from one language to another without any confusion and to be able to dream and think in both languages and shift from one to the other with precision, as we used to do with French in the past. Morocco will not return to this situation and we must understand that it has become impossible to return to this situation.

In the coming years and under the best circumstances, Morocco's language situation will become similar to that of Lebanon's. It is unimaginable that the Moroccans will continue to speak French in the future as the educated among them speak it now. This is very difficult because those who presently speak French at this level studied French as a culture and not as a language. In the past, French was taught as a language. But it was also bolstered by the study of history and geography in French, as well as the study of medieval, renaissance and enlightenment French literature and French philosophy.

This is no longer possible because French is being taught as a language and cannot be bolstered with culture unless it replaces Arabic. But then we would sacrifice our Arabic culture, and this is something we must keep in mind. The proof of this is that in the past people produced excellent French literature even though they were not French. In some colonized countries, the French language was bolstered with the culture. The same happened with English. It is said that English is widespread. This is true but those who speak it speak a simple form of the language.

It used to be noted that some people mastered English. It is said that Nehru spoke English. Suffice it to say that in the entire Indian subcontinent, reference is made to only one person who mastered English, whereas we had tens like Nehru in Morocco.

As for the semidesert environment, schooling must be integrated with the rural environment and there must be those who believe willingly and voluntarily that it is in their sons' interest to continue to learn an agricultural manual skill from father or brother while we eradicate their alphabetical illiteracy. In my humble opinion, the mistake committed--a mistake that I referred to in my latest efforts with UNESCO--is that many people who tried to eradicate the alphabetical illiteracy committed the mistake of falling into another kind of illiteracy by abandoning skills that they had mastered and that had formed in them a culture and a science. Thus, while gaining alphabetical literacy, those people developed cultural illiteracy. This is a mistake that we have also committed by giving priority to fighting illiteracy over preserving the deep-rooted popular culture and manual skills transmitted by word of the mouth. What is the objective of eradicating illiteracy? It is to gain knowledge. So if man can gain knowledge or if he has the means to gain knowledge by word of mouth, then he attains this knowledge and the desired objective is realized.

I am not saying that it is useless to eradicate illiteracy. What I am saying is that we have fallen into the trap of clinging to alphabetical literacy. It is my belief that the international organizations advocating the eradication of illiteracy have helped in perpetuating this mistake. This eradication of illiteracy is one of the things behind the increasing number of emigrants from the rural areas to the cities--emigrants seeking to eradicate their illiteracy as the only means to social advancement.

It will become evident in the future, and this is one of the causes of my optimism, that school alone is no longer the basis of social advancement and that the attainment of a manual, agricultural or industrial skill may lead to social progress similar to, even better than, the progress to which scholastic education leads.

[Question] Large numbers of our students are studying abroad, most of them in Europe. Despite the development occurring in high schools with the introduction of English and Spanish, and with preparations to meet the needs of the few in the future, and despite Morocco's tendency to expand internal university education, to decentralize the university and to spread it over a large geographic area so that the university can absorb a large number of students--despite this, a large number of students will go abroad either for disciplines that are not available in Morocco or because the university will not be able to absorb them. How do you view this phenomenon of Moroccan students abroad, both negatively and positively and keeping in mind that the students getting an education abroad are important to Morocco because they do return to the country, contrary to what is happening in other societies? There are exceptions of course, but these exceptions are not so many as to cause apprehension, unlike other societies. The reason for this phenomenon in other societies might perhaps be the fact that the students don't find the right environment in their countries, and thus prefer to stay abroad. Let me summarize my question: How do you feel about the fact that many Moroccan students are studying abroad?

[Answer] First, this is a temporary phenomenon that has begun to diminish and that will diminish further in the next few years when it will no longer serve the student's interests to go abroad, at least up to a certain level, namely, the university level. They will also no longer have the means to do so as a result of the barriers put up in their way by the countries to which they have traditionally gone. Let me note here the barriers that Canada will establish, the financial barriers insofar as the Anglo-Saxon countries are concerned and the difficult living conditions that the students have begun to encounter in the other European countries, particularly in France.

Third, and this is the important thing, Morocco will gradually have the institutions capable of absorbing all students. In this respect, I can say insofar as the next few years are concerned that university enrollment will pose no problem in the years 1983 to 1990 because what Morocco is planning at present and what it will build and construct will be capable of absorbing all students, regardless of their number. Let me note that a total of 200,000 baccalaureate holders will be graduated in the year 2000 and that the total number of university students will reach 670,000 students out of a total population of 37 million by the end of the century. This should not

scare us. Rather, it will pose no problem to us. I believe that the question has another aspect, namely, the positive interaction between the Moroccan students and the foreign societies in which they live and whether this interaction will continue and in what form it will continue. I say that we will reach the situation experienced by all societies where contacts are confined to scientists. The relations currently existing between scientists surpass all barriers because scientists have come to form a society above all societies--a society with its own means of familiarization, contact, exchange and language. Therefore, we should not be afraid that we will experience some form of isolation because we do not send our students abroad. We will not experience such isolation and we will develop the situation developed in other countries, with one distinction stemming from our geographic position between Europe and America. The Atlantic has now turned into a lake and is no longer the sea of darkness, as it used to be called in the past. It is nothing more than a lake separating us from North, Central and South America. Naturally, the expected (intercontinental) linkage will tie us to Europe. This is in addition to our traditional ties with Africa. Therefore, we do not expect to become isolated.

[Question] But this brings up the issue of the standard of education. This standard has nothing to do with the absorption capacity of the universities, despite the efforts exerted. But it is well-known that France, for example, according to the estimates of scientists, is 50 years behind the United States scientifically. What do you think the difference would be if Morocco were compared with the United States or even with France! With the availability of the absorption capacity at Moroccan universities, isn't it beneficial to constantly encourage students to get their education in American universities, for example, instead of limiting such contact to scientists? There have to be scientists for the contacts to be established. The best way to create scientists is to open the door to our college-level youth to continue technological studies at their original sources.

[Answer] This is an inevitable aspect of the experimental process. This interaction exists at present among all countries. States are like butterflies that see a bright light somewhere and rush to it. The bright light presently is the light of the United States and this light attracts butterflies not only from Morocco but also from England, Europe and Asia. All people head for the United States. But it is certain that the benefit is not up to the level of the university training or the so-called freshman level and sophomore level. The benefit comes when one acquires a significant degree of education and then goes to these sources at the junior level at least. This is what we enact and advise and what may happen in the future. At this level, there is interaction. Even the laboratory that receives the student may benefit from him because the laboratory supervisor, that is, the scientist, does not give the student theoretical lessons but includes him in his team of researchers. Thus, the student turns into a productive and beneficial element to the laboratory and he himself benefits at the same time. Therefore, we serve no interest by sending students before the license [presumably before they have degrees]. The benefit lies in our sending the elite who emerge at the level of the third corps when they can give and take, serve and benefit and when there is realistic cooperation between the giver and the taker.

[Question] Let me raise the issue of the changing and the constant. Insofar as you are concerned, what is considered constant and what is considered changing in the educational process?

[Answer] Let me laud your use of the phrase "educational process" rather than "teaching process" in this context. It is proven that the educational process is that process in which all of society's efforts unite to engage the conscience as a mainstay in a people, a nation and mankind as a whole. Here emerges the fundamental role of the basic materials as a means and of language as the most important part of training. I am not saying this only insofar as Arabic is concerned but insofar as any language and any society are concerned. The same goes for morals. To us as Muslims, these morals emanate from the innate character that God has given to man. To us, morals are a constant. This is what distinguishes us from those who develop their morals by virtue of imposing themselves on the moral concept and on the basis of what is common rather than the basis of prior and constant criteria. To us Muslims, truthfulness, honesty, professional integrity and the safeguarding of honor are all constant mainstays that, in my opinion, must continue and must not be overtaken by other concepts.

[Question] It is noted that the religious and spiritual deterrent in our society has weakened, as in other societies. How do you view people spiritually in the future and will the spiritual aspect complement or parallel to material and scientific progress?

[Answer] It is my opinion that the spiritual aspect is the fundamental one because technology is worthless if it is not supported by and based on morals. I don't think that this moral aspect will develop with mere speeches and words. It can only survive by example and by daily conduct. The example and the conduct will be easy if the objective factors influencing it are examined. It is my humble opinion that these factors are the ones that influence emigration from the Moroccan semidesert to the urban areas. A man in the Moroccan desert can preserve his dignity and his genuine honor without having any money or liquid assets. He can, without liquidity, get an egg, some beans and a few olives. This is enough to sustain him. This is what is actually happening. The desert people are, as you are well aware, generous and honorable, treat the guest hospitably and shun begging and stealing. As soon as a person leaves the desert and enters the city of tin shacks, it becomes impossible for him to live without money. On the first day of his arrival in the city, he cannot live without money. So he is forced to find work in order to obtain money honorably. Otherwise, he is forced to get the money dishonorably. So, the first thing is embodied in curtailing rural migration and in preserving this noble asset where it belongs, in the Moroccan countryside. I believe that another way to stop the emigration is to get schools to the countryside because rural inhabitants often emigrate to the city because it offers the only means for social advancement. If schools are brought to him and if he realizes that there are means for social advancement other than [overcoming his] alphabetical illiteracy, then he will settle where he is and, consequently, preserve his dignity, honor and morals.

[Question] Considering that education is the factory that puts out the working and productive citizen who must interact with his environment intelligently and creatively, what should this factory--meaning the Moroccan national school--be?

[Answer] The school must be understood as a factory producing a specimen with preplanned and real specifications. In this sense, and considering that the human element is subject to development because life has imposed this on it, the school must be capable of development. This means that when we speak of reforming education, we must do so while being aware that what we change today is subject to advance to being changed tomorrow because the school is life and, consequently, must develop with life. There is no fixed reform. However, there is development of the school and of the content of the school according to the development of the specifications required by society in those whom the school trains. The current flaw in the educational systems is the structural flaw that makes it necessary to demolish the entire structure and replace it with another. If there is reform in the fixed sense, it lies in building structures that are not tied firmly to each other but that take the form of units liable to independent change. We will then not be compelled to demolish the entire structure just to change one unit. This is what made me say before that the cell or group must pay careful attention to forming its members so that it is itself able to change this content in light of specifications set in the future for the youth, without the need for Tetouan to change what happens in Tiflet or for Tiflet to change what happens in Tan-Tan, considering that each will establish the framework befitting its environment. Of course, there will be a common denominator that cannot be abandoned, namely, what guides the nation in whatever is constant. As for what is changing, it may change with time; but at the same time it may also change with the population.

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BRIEFS

KHARTOUM CONGRESS DISBANDED--Khartoum, Feb. 20 (SUNA)--President Nimeri yesterday disbanded the SSU congress for Khartoum Area and abolished all its resolutions particularly the elections of its Secretary and the Area Committee. The President's decision demanded SSU Khartoum Province Secretary to put this into force and to reorganize the SSU bodies affected by the decision. The decision dismissed the following from the SSU: 1) 'Abd al-Qayyum Fath al-Rahman al-'Iraqi; 2) Hashim Muhammad Bashir; 3) Zuhayr Harun; 4) Hamad Hasan Salman. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4407, 20 Feb 83 p 1]

UGANDAN REFUGEES--Juba, Feb. 20 (SUNA)--Some 130 Ugandan refugees have decided to return home. The UNHCR office here transported them last Tuesday to Gulu area in Uganda on their home-bound trip. Thirty of the Ugandans are students who said they wanted to resume their studies at home. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4407, 20 Feb 83 p 1]

NEW OIL WELL--Khartoum, Feb. 20 (SUNA)--Oil flowed from a well in the Unity oil field which was dug, in the first place, to inject water through it to the whole field, SUNA learned. Oil at sandy layers where the oil flowed at the well in question is not usual and the rate of flow [of] 3300 barrels per day is considered reasonable, commented Chevron Managing Director Mr. Conally. Chevron is currently engaged in studies connected with oil production at the Unity Field and Hijlij Field, he added. The phenomenon happened while technicians were preparing Unity Field for production by digging unproductive wells for the injection of water which would raise pressure deep in the soil and facilitate the flow of oil, said Energy and Mining Minister Sharif al-Tuhami. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4407, 20 Feb 83 pp 1, 2]

FRANCO-SUDANESE PROTOCOL--Khartoum, March 31 (SUNA)--President Nimeri has endorsed the Sudanese-French Financial Protocol for 1983. According to the protocol France would extend to Sudan financial assistance to the value of 170 million francs to finance purchase of French commodities and services. Some 80 million francs of the French aid would be allocated for financing the modernization project of Khartoum-Port Sudan microwave network, the construction of three granaries in Southern Kurdufan and Darfur, the drilling of water wells in Kurdufan and Darfur regions and the establishment of a cattle farm in Junqali. The remaining part of the French aid would be

allocated for the purchase of spare parts for the railways Corporation and for the purchase of equipment required for the highway traffic and the Port Sudan-Khartoum Pipeline. Agricultural machines and spare parts would also be provided against the French assistance. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4446, 31 Mar 83 p 6]

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETS--Khartoum, April 4 (SUNA)--Chaired by President Numayri, the Council of Ministers yesterday held its regular meeting. Acting Eastern Region Governor Sulayman 'Uthman Faqiri reported to the Council on his Government's plans, programmes and policies. He said that 84 industrial projects now exist in the Region while another 149 projects are under construction, citing that the capital invested in industries in the Region has totalled LS 370 million in the private and public sectors. Faqiri said that some 350,000 refugees now live in the Region and explained the impact of refugees on living conditions in the Region. The Acting Governor explained the achievements of his Government of laying down the principles of decentralization and regional government and indicated the efforts being exerted in agricultural and animal production spheres and for the provision of services. Energy and Mining Minister Sharif al-Tuhami reported to the Council on the present electric and water supplies indicating that the rise in temperature has caused an increase in the demand for water and electric services. He said the shortcomings that surfaced in those two utilities would be gradually overcome when Burri Thermal station is operated late this month and when Burri old power station is maintained. Tuhami said due measures had been taken throughout the capital to provide water supplies and urged citizens to rationalize water and electricity consumption. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4450, 4 Apr 83 pp 3, 4]

CSO: 4500/189

PRESIDENT SAYS IRANIAN DREAMS 'SHATTERED'

JN142020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Apr (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has expressed the hope that the Iranian enemy will take heed and arrive at the minimum rational conclusion after the battles it waged, that its expansionist dreams have been shattered.

Addressing a group of fighters from the Nasr forces today upon awarding them medals of valor in appreciation for their courage and heroism in repulsing the recent Iranian aggression, the president said that charlatan Khomeyni should be the first to realize this in the interest of the Iranian peoples.

Continuing his address in the city of al-'Amarah in southern Iraq today, he added: It seems that this man's perception is very slow and that his intentions as well as those of his followers are such that Iran's interests are given secondary attention, giving no value to his people's blood.

The president added that people will certainly discover the truth with a living conscience and a special historic feeling and that Khomeyni will be stoned by his people before being stoned by the other peoples. He said that some of the Iranian peoples have discovered an important part of the truth while the others discover the whole truth when they fall in captivity. They are astonished to see you pray. They break down and curse the day on which Khomeyni was born and the day on which he dies because he lied to them.

CSO: 4400/289

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON PEACE CALLS, IRAN'S OBDURACY

JN180956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 18 Apr (INA)--An Iraqi daily emphasizes that Iraq's stands have, since the eruption of the war, been responsive to all mediation efforts to end the war because Iraq does not entertain covetous designs over any Iranian land nor does it intend to humiliate the Iranian people or army. Iraq, the daily adds, seeks to safeguard its sovereignty and land and to ensure the security and progress of its people.

This came in AL-THAWRAH's editorial today commenting on President Saddam Husayn's speech at the Islamic Conference the day before yesterday in which he reaffirmed Iraq's peaceful intentions toward the unjust war which has been imposed on Iraq for well over 2 and a half years, and Iraq's sincere readiness to end the war in any just manner that would guarantee its rights of sovereignty, security and nonintervention in its domestic affairs.

The paper, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says that the president's magnanimity went far beyond declaring Iraq's readiness to end the war when he told the Muslim ulemas, who came from every part of the Muslim world, that Iraq has accepted their decision to invite the Iranian ulemas to participate in the conference or in any other gathering they deem fit to contribute toward ending the war and the bloodshed.

The paper adds: Although the war is still going on and although the Iranian side is still making threats, launching abortive offensives and overtly concealing its designs for expansion at the expense of Iraq's land, the Iraqi stand has remained completely unblemished by error or recklessness due to its responsibility to keep the region away from international interactions.

Continuing its editorial, AL-THAWRAH explains that Iraq's positive stands and calls for achieving a just and honorable peace in accordance with the international norms and charters have never been made out of weakness or impotence, but have been based on responsible feelings, human values and eagerness to preserve security and stability in the region.

Alluding to Iraq's positive stands and peaceful calls and initiatives, AL-THAWRAH says that these ceaseless calls and initiatives have been based

on a sound understanding of the nature of events and were not made belatedly, but were announced during the first days of the war.

AL-THAWRAH concludes its editorial by saying that Iraq, which is perfectly strong and capable of checking Iran's aggressions and aborting their covetous designs, will remain strong and victorious and so will the great Iraqi people and their leader and army. The aggressors will surely face their ultimate black end.

CSO: 4400/289

IRAQ

BRIEFS

CREDENTIALS OF NEW AMBASSADOR--Baghdad, 10 Apr (INA)--President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of Barry Hewitt Brooks, the New Zealand ambassador assigned to Iraq. [JN101103 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 10 Apr 83]

CSO: 4400/289

KNESSET MEMBERS SAY ARENS MAY IMPROVE BUT WILL NOT ALTER RELATIONS WITH U.S.

Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 25 Feb 83 p 12

[Article by Adar Qesari: "Most of the Respondents: New Defense Minister Will Resist Pressures"]

[Text] We have asked 12 Knesset members of various parties, who comprise 10 percent of the Knesset membership, the question: "Do you think that the new defense minister, Moshe Arens, will change and improve our relations with the U.S.?"

More than two-thirds of the respondents said that since Arens will remain faithful to the government policy there will be no concession on our part and relations will not change. Some said that there will be a certain change in style when Arens takes office.

Here are the answers in detail:

Knesset Member Abba Eban (Alignment): Any appointment of a defense minister in Sharon's place will improve relations with the U.S. Especially the appointment of Arens, who is familiar with relations with the U.S.

Knesset Member Yosef Rom (Likud): The appointment of Arens may serve as a reason for the U.S. to start a new leaf, more friendly, with Israel. In principle, Arens will change the government policy which Sharon had followed. As for the style, Sharon's style did not stimulate diplomatic dialogue between us and the Americans.

Knesset Member Ehud Olmert (La'am): If the White House thinks that the replacement of Sharon by Arens will bring about a change of policy, the American Government is mistaken.

Knesset Member Ge'ula Cohen (Tehiya): No change of personnel in the government is likely to change our relations with the U.S., as long as our government continues to stand its ground and not give in to the Americans. The Government of Israel and not Sharon is responsible for its unwillingness to capitulate and for our lukewarm relations with the U.S. Arens will certainly have a good influence, since he is well suited for this job.

Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am (Alignment): In the short run the relations between the two countries will improve as a result of Arens' appointment. As for the long run, I do not feel confident relations will improve.

Knesset Member Tzvi Renner (Likud): I see no difference between Sharon and Arens, hence the U.S. did not gain anything from the change, and I hope will not gain anything in the future.

Knesset Member Hayim Druckman (NRP): There will be absolutely no change in the government position because of the change. We know Arens' political views. He is for the Land of Israel and for not giving up any part of it. If the White House harbors any hope that we will now give in to them, they are mistaken. The one responsible for the low point in our relations with the U.S. is not Sharon but the Americans.

Knesset Member Hanan Porat (Tehiya): There may be a change in style, but not in substance, or government position, unless we start having an erosion, which we must not have.

Knesset Member Shlomo Hilel (Alignment): There will be no substantive change. There will be a change for the better in style, which is something.

Knesset Member Yitzhaq Zeiger (Likud): Policy is made by the government and not by the defense minister. There will be a change in style. There are conflicts of interests between us and the U.S. Since this government strongly insists on our rights, the White House is not always happy with us.

Knesset Member Yig'al Cohen (La'am): Our policy thus far has been the right one. Arens will remain faithful to it.

Knesset Member Beni Shalita (Likud): Relations between countries are not determined by the style of one man. Sharon did not exaggerate when he pointed out from time to time that the positions of the U.S. did not help with the signing of agreements. The U.S. and not Sharon is responsible for the lack of progress in the peace negotiations. If anyone thinks that a policy of embraces with the U.S. will improve our relations will soon be proven wrong by reality.

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CSO: 4423/106

TEHIYA MEMBERS INCITE STREET GANGS UNDER GUISE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 2 Mar 83 pp 8, 42

[Article by Yitzhaq Ravihiya: "Peace Now Was Shown on Television; Also Rabbi Kahane; But the Ones Doing Thorough Work in the Jerusalem Slums, Far from the Limelights, Are the Tehiya People, under Guise of Community Service"]

[Text] The attempt of the Peace Now people to reach young people in the poor neighborhoods of Jerusalem was widely reported by the media. Most of the attention was given to the young Sephardic Jews who said that their association with Peace Now did not mean ideological agreement, but an almost instinctive opposition to putting so much money into the settlements while the famous project of the rehabilitation of the poor neighborhoods is suffering from lack of budget. Are the Peace Now people the only ones who are doing work in those neighborhoods? A close look reveals that the other political extreme--the right end of the political spectrum--is doing thorough work in the neighborhoods of Jerusalem. The group of Rabbi Kanahe is making a great deal of noise, directed at the media and especially television. The Tehiya people work side by side with that group, led by Tazhi Hanegbi. They prefer actual results to putting on a show for television. They look to swell their ranks, find new activists, involve more and more young people in longrange political work. The activities of Peace Now on the one hand and of the Tehiya on the other, reminds us of the political atmosphere of the fifties, when the target group was made up of new immigrants in the camps. Now it is made up of the poor.

The Tehiya began its activity in the poor neighborhoods when Hanegbi was the chairman of the student association at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. His official title as a student enabled him to work in those neighborhoods--no one is going to question the work of students in poor neighborhoods, which is presented as a national and social mission rather than partisan activity. Shortly afterwards Hanegbi founded NAC, Neighborhood Activities Circles, sponsored by the students (under the rightist government) and the Housing Ministry (run by the Likud). The first liaison person of NAC was Shlomo Tal, who worked as a youth adviser in the Stern neighborhood. The first contacts were made with youth in Qiryat Yovel.

Some of those youth are now saying that they were recruited at the time in order to break up demonstrations on the campuses of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa for money. The head of the group brings 17 year olds for contract work. Every demonstration hagger gets about 4000 liras, a large sum in those days. In those days iron chains were introduced on the Jerusalem campus as a weapon, and the Qastel people, the rightist student organization, scored their first victories against the leftists.

Some time later on a new movement was founded, named YFN, Youth For Neighborhoods. They distributed fliers together with NAC, made promises about social and educational activities which were never kept. Shlomo Tal once organized a trip for the youth of Stern Street. The destination was the Golan Heights. On the way back--they are now telling everyone in the neighborhood--they stopped in Tiberias for beer and liquor at the expense of the organizers.

The Consensus is Broken

Now comes into the picture the Unit for the Advancement of Youth in the city hall of Jerusalem, once called the Unit for Street Work. The target of the unit is the youth of the neighborhoods. The method--activity through street work. The workers of the unit make contact with street gangs in order to help them with family problems and improve their relations with the authorities--the police, the courts and the IDF. During their work the unit staff wins the confidence of the young people and tries to influence them to study and learn a trade.

Over the years the unit was politically balanced. Yosef Meyuhas of the Alignment (a MAPAM member who was the unit's street work inspector and was accused once of helping the Black Panthers), Shabtia Amdit of the Likud (who did support the Panthers and even worked with Matzpen, who collaborated with the Panthers in the beginning), and Iza Kahan of Agudat Yisrael worked together. This peaceful coexistence was made possible thanks to the agreement to keep politics out of the work on behalf of the neighborhoods. About three years ago this balance was upset, as more and more people entered the unit who were members of the right and of the Tehiya.

The rightists found in the unit likeminded people like 'Uzi Sason, a settler from Giv'on, and Musa Hizqihu, a member of Ma'ale Adumim (who was one of the organizers of Qatamon, who came to demonstrate in Sabastiya during the time of the Alignment). Among the new members the active ones are Rivqa Artzi (in 'Ir Ganim, member of the Tehiya), Shim'on Suisa (also 'Ir Ganim, Tehiya) Hayim 'Amar (formerly of Katamon 6, now 'Ir Ganim, Tehiya), and Dudu Hefetz (of 'En Kerem).

Dudu Hefetz was accepted to the unit according to a contract that ends next month. During his entire term in the unit he tried to hide his political identity. On a casual interview on television he presented himself as apolitical. Recently, during a Peace Now demonstration, at the end of which Emil Greenzweig was murdered, he was seen among the crowd that cursed the demonstrators. Some say that Hefetz, an educator,

was seen beating up demonstrators, and some of his coworkers say that he mobilized youth from Qatamon for activities against Peace Now. He was detained by the police and was investigated in connection with his activities during the demonstration by a special unit formed in order to look into that day of violence.

Swastika and Rag

Many workers in the unit say that most of the activity of the Tehiya is centered in 'Ir Ganim. During the elections in the neighborhood in December 1982 the rightist YFN won out against MIC (Movement for Improving the Community), and Hanegbi went over there the next day in order to celebrate the victory together with Hayim 'Amar, the chairman of YFN, Rivqa Artzi and Dudu Hefetz. More than celebrate the victory of the local party, they celebrated the influence of the Tehiya in the neighborhood. By the way, YFN made a great effort to unite with MIC, even at the expense of giving up its name. The effort failed because of the YFN's refusal to adopt the slogan "Settlements at the expense of the neighborhoods."

The activity of the Tehiya in 'Ir Ganim is typical of its work elsewhere, done either openly or under the guise of the Unit for the Advancement of youth. Unit workers point at Qatamon 6 and 'En Kerem.

The Greek Orthodox church in 'En Kerem has been suffering for some time from attacks by strangers. Swastikas have been painted on its walls and once a gasoline soaked rag was thrown at the gas tanks of the church.

"The inclusion of a group of Tehiya people in the unit after the unit has been known to be apolitical is a cause for concern," some of the workers say. "This is sensitive work, dealing with bitter residents. Diverting their attention from their problems by agitation and calling for violence undermines the work of the unit and poses a threat to democracy. This is a similar process to what has taken place on campus--introducing violence and using poor youth. Those responsible for it should be aware of what they are doing and restore the balance so that political opinion do not influence the professional work and its quality."

A senior city hall official says: "I note that the people in charge of the unit, including Yosef Meyuhas, who is the head, are trying to hid from the public the fact that the Tehiya people are taking over the neighborhoods through the unit."

Devoted to the Task

I asked for the reaction of Rafi Davra, the spokesman of the Jerusalem municipality. "This is a dangerous area," he says. "The education department is problematic, and the communal workers department is known to be antiestablishment. In the past they were accused of establishing the Black Panthers; then they were accused of creating the tents movement. Hiring city workers, especially for this department, is done on the basis of professional rather than political considerations. There are ethical

considerations, but you cannot be objective in a profession where the turnover is high. However, there is no extremism." As for the Dudu Hefetz case, the city spokesman says that his future will be discussed.

Knesset Member Ya'akov Gil, formerly in charge of the social work of the city of Jerusalem and now the chairman of the association for social education in Israel, says that what takes place in 'Ir Ganim is a cause for concern. Gil, who once gave an important push to street work in the poor areas of the city, thinks there is a danger of mixing political opinions with professional considerations. "It is a great responsibility to work in the neighborhoods, and you have to stick to professional ethic. Everything should be devoted to the task. The moment you mix the residents in politics, especially these days, you hurt them. They cannot be turned into objects." Gil plans to bring this issue up in the Knesset.

According to an estimate, more than a third of the 60 workers of the unit is identified with the Tehiya. Quite a ratio for a faction represented in the Knesset by three members.

Knesset Member Ge'ula Cohen, the leader of the Tehiya, refused to speak on the subject, arguing that she is not involved in it. She did confirm that the party has long decided to be involved in the neighborhoods. Hanegbi, her son, who organized the Tehiya activities in Jerusalem, admitted that the movement recruited people in the neighborhoods. "We were active mainly in 'Ir Ganim, Qiryat Yovel and the Qatamon area. In every neighborhood there were some people who were responsible for the activities. The ones who are most active today are the Gush Emunim people from the Merkaz Harav Yeshiva and from other schools." He adds that the NAC is not connected to the Tehiya. "It is only a personal relationship. I personally did not take part in the project."

As for the YFN, "As far as I know, they all belong to the right, but are not party members, although I have tried to persuade them, particularly Hayim 'Amar, who is my friend, to attain political positions of power." Hanegbi says that "the residents of the neighborhoods, besides Shlomo Tal and two of his friends, had nothing to do with the demonstrations that had taken place on the campus in Jerusalem. Tal and his friends were accused of disturbing the peace. They were neighborhood residents, but at the time Tal was also a student. If people did not come from the neighborhoods they came on their own. No one organized them for the purpose of breaking up demonstrations in Jerusalem."

Rivqa Artzi, a worker in Qiryat Menahem, admitted having helped the YFN in the elections in 'Ir Ganim. She said to me: "I am considered a rightist and I belong to the Tehiya... excuse me, I support the Tehiya but I do not have a membership card. I attend their meetings, but the youth I work with does not know about my political views."

Other unit workers say that Yosef Meyuhas, the head, specifically told them not to be interviewed and not to talk to reporters about the unit.

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CSO: 4423/105

UNEMPLOYMENT IN HAIFA, NORTH SURVEYED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Feb 83 p 9

[Article: "Unemployment Is Highest in Haifa and the North"]

[Text] Unemployment is highest in Haifa and the north. The reason for 90 percent of the unemployment in the area is that workers are not being hired, and only 10 percent has to do with workers turning down jobs. These figures appear in an analysis done by Ya'akov Ish-Shalom of the authority for manpower in the Labor Ministry for the years 1965-1982.

In most cases of people unwilling to work, it is not the result of lack of professional training. In the Haifa and north area there is a high percentage of trained people who are not willing to work because of inadequate pay.

In the Negev and south the unemployment is less severe. There is a lower ratio between those who seek work and openings. Only half of the unemployment in this area is the result of job shortage, while the other half is the mismatch between the workers and the openings. The mismatch is seen mostly among untrained workers, that is, the unwillingness to do unprofessional work for a low pay. Furthermore, such work is done by Arabs from the territories. In the center of the country, including Jerusalem, three-quarters of the unemployment is caused by the job shortage and one-quarter by the mismatch. Most of the unfilled openings are unskilled labor. Also, the availability of workers from the territories lowers the pay, especially in such sectors as construction. Israelis shy away from those areas. The difference between the north and the south does not end here. In the south there are more workers from the territories, hence Israelis do not look for work in such industries as construction.

The study reaches the conclusion that unemployment at its present level in Israel is the result of insufficient jobs and only in small part a result of mismatch or the unwillingness to work. Hence, in order to reduce unemployment it is necessary to expand and change the job market in order to make it fit better the work force. Other solutions, such as expanding vocational training and improving unemployment insurance, only have a marginal effect.

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CSO: 4423/105

BRIEFS

DISADVANTAGES OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS--The importing of consumer goods hardly grew in 1982, and its impact on the balance of payments was small. Its portion in the market in most areas was negligible. On the other hand, importing did influence favorably the slow rise in prices and helped improve the quality of the local product which proved valuable to absorbing currency. These are the findings of a survey by the economic section of the chambers of commerce of Israel. The data show that the rate of imported consumer goods in the total civilian imports totalled \$810.7 million out of a total import of \$8.087 billion, that is, only 10 percent. Consumer goods include food, while nonperishable goods only totalled \$339 million in imports, that is, only 4.19 percent of the total imports. The chairman of the chambers of commerce, Avner Ben-Ya'ar, says while sighting the results of the survey, that they disprove the common arguments about the unbridled rise in imports of consumer goods, which is a negative factor in the balance of payments and the local industry. There is no need to limit imports, since this will not accomplish anything positive and may even cause a backlash against Israeli exports. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 22 Feb 83 p 2] 9565

GOVERNMENT OBSTRUCTION OF IMPORTS--"We will continue to put stumbling blocks in the path of imports in order to strengthen Israeli production," so promised Commerce and Industry Minister Gid'on Pat yesterday in a speech before the convention of the Israel Management Center, attended by personnel directors. The convention dealt with inflation, trade and work conditions. The minister promised that the country will continue to be open to competing imports, but "we will not allow a paradise for importers and a hell for producers" by bringing imports at unfair prices. We cannot destroy the local industry by being too liberal in our import prices, cheaper by far than our local prices. Mr. Pat added that Israel is the only country in the world which is able to manage its economical affairs under such a high rate of inflation. But he cautioned that a higher inflation may not be manageable. He believes in a fiscal policy which will prevent the rise of demand and will reduce the cost of production if inflation is to be dealt with effectively. This is feasible today, he

pointed out, because of the drop in oil prices in the world and the stability of raw material prices. The minister promised to act to lower the cost of production, ensure the profitability of exports, emphasizing that last year there was no drop in the volume of exports and only a drop in profit because of the devaluation of European currency. He mentioned success of the insuring of the export rates which provided an average of 3.1 percent for bridging the gap between the devaluation in Israel and around the world. The year 1983 will be a tough one, but if we keep our head above water we will reap the benefits in years to come, the minister concluded. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 22 Feb 83 p 2] 9565

JORDAN VALLEY EXPANSION PROJECT--The Gaon Hayarden operation was agreed upon between the settlement division of the Zionist Federation and the IDF authorities. According to a special agreement, the fence in the Jordan Valley will be moved from the Valley road to the Jordan River. The objective is to add good farm land which has not been cultivated in the past. The head of the settlement division, Matityahu Derobles, reported the foregoing in a closed meeting of the division heads of the Zionist Federation. He pointed out that this was the only area which on our side was "yellow" while on the Jordanian side it was "green." The Jordanian used Israeli knowhow in order to build greenhouses and grow various crops in an area bordering on the Jordan. The added land will permit an additional settlement of 2000 residents in the Jordan Valley. The present population is 909 families, totalling some 4000 residents, living in 23 settlements and eight outposts. There are still 500 vacant homes or housing in various stages of construction which can absorb 2000 residents. Prof Ra'anan Weitz, the head of the settlement department, announced the forming of a unit for developing the Valley to be housed in Ma'ale Efrayim. Its job will be to "put the area on its feet", since the Valley is one of the best places in Israel for settlement and development. [Text] [Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 18 Feb 83 p 10] 9565

NEW COMPUTER FOR BEGINNERS--A new revolutionary computer which creates a new set of relations between the computer and the user will soon be marketed in Israel by the Computer Knowledge and Software company, the Israeli agent of Apple Computers, the giant U.S. computer company. This computer, named Lisa, imitates human activities and is easier to operate than the common computer. Lisa has a device the size of the palm of the hand, nicknamed "mouse," which is used by the operator to point at the part necessary for activating a given program. All the items appear on the screen as pictures taken from the individual's everyday environment--office desk, documents, files etc. This mode of operation frees the operator from depending on a keyboard and gives him space for easy human action. Lisa was programmed as a simple system that can be operated immediately by those who have no experience in computers or any other technical background. Tests have shown that it took 10 minutes to learn how to operate it. [Text] [Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 25 Feb 83 p 33] 9565

KIBBUTZ ARTZI SETTLEMENT APPROVAL--The Kibbutz Artzi is the most vocal movement among the kibbutz movements in its opposition to the settlements in Judea and Samaria. It also heads the campaign against stationing NAHAL soldiers in those areas. Yet the Eshkolot outpost located two km east of the Green Line not far from the Shoqet intersection, is settled by members of the Kibbutz Artzi. The movement's spokesman told us in answer to a question that the Kibbutz Artzi is against the settlement, and that the group was placed there by the army against its wishes. We have checked the matter. An expert on settlements told us: The sending of the group to Eshkolot was done with the knowledge and consent of the Kibbutz Artzi. A decision was also made to turn the place into a civilian settlement of the Kibbutz Artzi. If the movement asks to take the group out of there, it will be taken out, since many groups would like to settle there. We have also checked with the Defense Ministry and were told unequivocally: The group is settled in Eshkolot by its own consent and in coordination with the Kibbutz Artzi. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Feb 83 p 13] 9565

CSO: 4423/105

KUWAITI DAILY INTERVIEWS JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER

GF150550 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 13 Apr 83 pp 1, 20

[Fathi Sharif dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Can we sincerely say that the dialogue between Jordan and the PLO on all that is involved with the Palestinian issue and the future of the political option for its solution will be totally discontinued? This was the first question of the long interview AL-SIYASAH conducted with one of the Jordanian Government's senior officials who took part in making the Jordanian political decision to end the dialogue with the PLO at this stage. The official was Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, who for the first time affirmed that what Jordan ended was that dialogue, which began 6 months ago on forming a confederation and the adoption of a joint work plan to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people politically and peacefully, but the relations and the dialogue which began before that, will continue and it is not possible to end them.

Abu 'Awdah said: We began our dialogue with the PLO 6 months ago and it developed into formulating a joint stance and turned into an understanding and came very close to finding an advanced solution to the problem, but when we were about to crystallize this understanding or approachment on a single and final stance, there developed a sudden difference in views, and because of this it was understandable that it will not be possible to envisage the joint Jordanian-Palestinian work program. We had to announce our sincere stance on ending the movement and the dialogue to all those who are concerned so that they would know our final view on this issue, particularly after the brothers in the PLO made propositions, the majority of which were impractical, for the continuation of this dialogue.

The information minister said: It was also necessary to affirm that Jordan and the PLO are the main losers in the continuation of no peace-no war situation currently imposed on the region, as well as they are the two Arab sides which suffer each passing day from losses in the withdrawal in our battle with Israel for the sake of the land and the people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Answering a question on his opinion on the real reasons for the PLO's withdrawal at the last moment from the agreement which was ready, the minister

said: This issue involves the PLO and I have no inside information about this decision.

About the framework or the limits of the support and cooperation between Jordan and the PLO in the upcoming stage, Abu 'Awdah said: They will be the same limits which were before the dialogue, that is before the past 6 months, but the change applies only to the stage that changed following the dialogue.

Asked whether the joint dialogue and coordination committee between Jordan and the PLO which existed previously will meet soon, the information minister said that everything is possible. Once again he was asked about the basis of the joint committee's upcoming dialogue, and he said: This is an issue which is related to permanent relations that involve supporting the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories.

Answering a question on the required stance of the Palestinian leadership, the minister said: I do not know exactly, we announced our sincere stand. All I can say is that there is no possibility to start another dialogue at present.

Referring to the nature of steps which it has been said Jordan will adopt to end its renewal of Palestinian's passports, and freeze the decision on Palestinian ownership rights and granting of Jordanian nationality, and the Jordanian stand on Palestinian refugees from the occupied territories, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah said: I would like to affirm to AL-SIYASAH that every Palestinian in Jordan is a Jordanian and nothing has or will change in this regard. The Palestinian who carries a Jordanian passport is a Jordanian. This is his legal and constitutional right, and we are a constitutional and civilized state and our people, both Jordanian and Palestinian, have all rights and responsibilities which are decided by the state. Regarding ownership rights, they will not change in the framework of this pan-Arab and national understanding, but regarding the Palestinian refugees from the occupied territories, that is something else. The government has started to adopt legal and administrative measures to put a limit to Palestinian immigration to Jordan, because we regard that an Israeli weapon which is being used against the Palestinian issue in order to clear the occupied territories of its citizens and usurp their lands. The issues are clear to us and Jordan, unlike other Arab countries which face Israel, is currently affected by an increase in the number of refugees, and that is why we will not grant Jordanian passports to those refugees.

The Jordanian minister was asked if there are new domestic trends to reorganize political life and hold parliamentary elections. The minister said: All these issues are included in our views within the framework of a comprehensive program to organize the domestic situation for our protection against any external disturbances. I also say that our battle with Israel has priority to achieve restoration of the land and the people, and other issues are of secondary importance and do not involve pan-Arab issues.

The minister was asked if the Jordanian statement aims at more political and psychological pressure to move the Arabs, Palestinians and the Americans. He said: That was not what we had in mind; we issued the statement within the framework of defining the stance and the responsibility and explaining all the developments witnessed by the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue during the past 6 months. The minister was asked to whom Jordan directed this statement according to priority of responsibilities as defined by the statement. Abu 'Awdah said: The Jordanian statement is first of all directed to the Jordanian people inside, then it is directed to the Palestinian people and the PLO; it is also directed to the United States and all Arabs everywhere.

CSO: 4400/295

JORDAN

COUNTRY'S MANPOWER NEEDS, DEVELOPMENTS EXAMINED

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Mar 83 p 3

[Article by Ziyad Farhan: "On Occasion of 11th Session of Arab Labor Conference in Amman Today, AL-DUSTUR Examines Jordan's Manpower Sector"]

[Text] Meetings of the 11th session of the Arab labor conference, in which 300 members representing 20 Arab countries and a number of Arab and international organizations and councils will participate, opens today.

Agenda

Participants in these meetings, which will last 10 days, will discuss the general director's report on the activities of the Arab Labor Bureau during the 10th and 11th sessions, the resolutions and recommendations of the executive council for the 10th and 11th sessions, administrative and financial issues, implementation of Arab labor agreements and recommendations and the general director's report on the 69th international labor conference to be held in Geneva next June.

Participants will also discuss wage policies, labor departments, labor social services, the strategy of manpower development and the venue and agenda of the conference's 12th session.

On Peripheries of Conference

In connection with this conference, which is being held in Jordan--a country considered a labor exporting country despite its small population and one which devotes to its worker every attention in order to raise his vocational and living standard and to provide him with a dignified life, AL-DUSTUR has decided to review the kingdom's manpower situation.

Jordanian Manpower

According to the latest statistics of the Ministry of Labor, there are 463,000 male and female workers in Jordan, comprising 20.3 percent of the population. The annual growth rate of this labor force is 3.5 percent.

These workers are distributed as follows in the various work sectors: 10 percent in agriculture, 2 percent in mining and mines, 10 percent in industry, 1.5 percent in electricity and water, 14 percent in construction, 10 percent in commerce, 8.5 percent in transportation, storage and shipping, 2.5 percent in financial, insurance and real estate services and 41.5 percent in public administration, defense and other services.

The number of Jordanians employed abroad is 305,000 male and female workers. Of these, 260,000 work in the Arab countries, including 75,000 in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Most of the rest work in the Gulf countries.

Foreign Workers

The demand has been rising for Arab and foreign workers to work in private and public sector development projects. Consequently, the number of Arab and foreign workers licensed by the Ministry of Labor to work in Jordan has increased, totaling 93,400 in 1981 and 61,300 in 1982. The reason for the difference between the two years is that Egyptian workers are no longer required to obtain work permits, having been exempted from acquiring residence permits. Consequently, it has become difficult to know the number of Egyptian workers. This group includes a total of 37,300 Arab workers, including 32,200 from Egypt alone, 21,300 from the Asian countries and 2,200 from European countries.

Labor Market Conditions During 5-Year Plan

The second 5-year development plan estimated the number of Jordanian workers in 1980 at 450,000. They are distributed sectorally according to the chart shown later [no chart in article], which relies on the relative distribution as demonstrated by the population census of 1979 and figures adjusted by the ministry.

The manpower needed to implement the plan is estimated at 254,000 workers. The Jordanian labor supply [hard] during the plan is expected to amount to nearly 184,000 workers, thus leading to an estimated additional deficit of 70,000 workers. If we add this deficit to the current number of non-Jordanian workers, then the number of Arab and foreign workers we will need will range from 190,000-200,000.

Because the labor entry and exist movement exceeds this number, this situation requires careful organization and sound followup.

The goals of the plan's manpower sector include the following:

Supplying the manpower necessary for the various economic activities within the framework of the new developments and preventing manpower bottlenecks, taking into consideration the Arab countries' development requirements.

Increasing the rate of participation in the labor force, with emphasis on the rate of women's participation.

Increasing the trained manpower, with the Vocational Training Institute training nearly 8,000 persons during the years of the plan as part of the industrial apprenticeship [al-talmazah] programs, in addition to enhancing the capabilities of nearly 6,000 workers and training them in new skills.

Establishing a comprehensive national labor system that divides the crafts into categories and classifies them as well as their workers.

Insuring vocational health and safety conditions and improving the working environment.

Enhancing the labor force's productivity in the Jordanian economy and enhancing the living standard of this force in a manner commensurate with increased productivity.

Setting minimum wage levels for the various groups of workers within the framework of the comprehensive national labor system.

Including nearly 185,000 workers in the social security system by the end of the plan.

Applying work-related accident insurance, the insurance for vocational diseases and old age and death insurance.

To achieve these goals, the plan's organizational measures include the following:

Establishing incentives to encourage the manpower that completes its training to enter the national labor market, to attract Jordanian technicians working abroad to work in Jordan and to encourage students of working age to work during the academic holidays.

Establishing incentives to prolong workers' participation in the labor market and to discourage early retirement.

Establishing incentives for women to enter the labor market, providing the necessary facilities and encouraging productive work in the home.

The Vocational Training Institution is to build and complete 5 centers already started and 18 new centers, including 5 major centers and 5 small centers for women's training and 8 centers attached to the industrial establishments and the public service establishments. This will make it possible for the institution to train 30,000 new workers within the framework of the industrial apprenticeship programs during the 1986-90 period.

Developing and modernizing labor legislation to make it compatible with the requirements of social and economic development, including the promulgation of a new labor law, a system of worker education and the bylaws for the Vocational Safety and Health Institute.

Intensifying efforts by the Ministry of Labor involving the welfare of Jordanian workers at home and abroad and the organization of their affairs insofar as employment and education are concerned, opening labor employment and education offices and bolstering the ministry's inspection agencies to insure the implementation of labor legislation already in force.

Following up on the implementation of labor agreements with Arab and other countries to organize the movement of manpower.

Jordanian Woman and Work

The past 7 years have seen a considerable demand by Jordanian women for work. The Jordanian woman has entered areas of work she had not touched before and the participation of Jordanian women of working age in the labor market has risen considerably, amounting to 14 percent. This is a high percentage compared with past years.

This growth is due to several things, including the increase in the work opportunities available and the economic projects produced by the development plans, the emigration of a large part of Jordanian manpower to work abroad, the spread of education and the gradual development in society's view of working women.

Reasons for Jordanian women's increased participation in the work force also include the enhanced psychological incentives, such as the woman's wish not to be dependent on anybody and the availability of kindergartens to care for her children while she is at work. This is in addition to the presence and development of laws and legislation that regulate women's work and protect their rights.

Labor Legislation

To keep up with the considerable development undergone by the kingdom and as part of the revolution in the various laws that have been promulgated and that are compatible with this development, there is the new labor bill, which has been presented to the premier's office so that it can go through the legal phases. This law is designed to be compatible with the Jordanian labor force's role in development.

Some of the most prominent provisions of the law are the following:

Comprehensive Nature of Law

Social justice dictates that this law be applied to all workers and all businessmen. Consequently, the provisions of the law have come to be applied to agricultural workers who perform technical, technological and administrative tasks. The sphere of its application is not confined to workers of organized establishments but has been expanded to include all establishments. The provisions of the law include all workers, with the exception of those governed by the civil service law.

Education, Guidance and Vocational Training

The bill reflects the importance of employment, guidance and vocational training in organizing the work of the public and private employment offices and establishing vocational training programs for the disabled. This is in addition to the bill's eagerness to organize vocational training in a manner compatible with development needs. The bill coordinates with the vocational training law and with provisions pertaining to compulsory education in the education law. The bill prohibits the employment of teenagers below the age of 15 but permits allows them to be accepted as trainees provided that they work no more than 6 hours daily.

Regulating Labor and Settling Labor Disputes

The bill focuses on regulating the provisions of the individual work contracts by spelling out the rights and duties of the worker and of the businessman. One of the most significant points included in the bill in this respect is its provisions for increasing the end-of-service compensation and entitling the family, not the individual, to this compensation. The bill has, consequently, abolished the penalty of dismissal without notice and without compensation. This is in addition to increasing workers' vacations and protecting wage limits. The bill also takes into consideration the rights of a worker summoned to perform military service. It focuses on organizing the collective work contracts and spells out the means for settling labor disputes.

Vocational Safety and Health

The bill requires the business owner to take every necessary measure and precaution to protect the workers from the dangers of work accidents, vocational diseases and fires and all other measures pertaining to working conditions and environment and to provide workers with protective wear at his expense. The bill also calls for Ministry of Labor approval in licensing any industrial establishment or expansion of an industrial establishment to insure that vocational safety and health precautions are followed. The bill also calls for conducting courses and holding seminars on labor safety activities.

Unionist Liberties

The bill comes up with a creative way to form labor unions, which so far have been formed by registration. The bill also provides for the possibility of fulltime union work for some workers and protects the unionized worker's membership in main positions of union organizations even if the worker's services are terminated by the business owner. The bill further permits business owners to form their own unions to which all the regulations governing workers' unions will apply.

Abiding by Provisions of Law

The bill organizes the Labor Inspection Agency and gives the inspectors broad powers to insure proper implementation of the law. The bill also raises the fines levied for violating the law in a manner compatible with its concern for abidance by its provisions.

Social Security

In line with the state policy seeking to secure an honorable life and a comfortable psychological climate for the worker and for his family after his death, the social security law was issued for the first time in 1978 through the Social Security Establishment.

The latest statistics by this establishment show that the number of those covered by the social security canopy is 57,000. In bringing the citizens under its canopy, the establishment proceeds in accordance with the provisions of the law and according to a timetable. The establishment has now reached the fourth phase of the timetable, which calls for including businesses that employ 20 or more people, keeping in mind that the next few months will witness extension of the law to businesses employing five or more persons, thus increasing considerably the number of social security beneficiaries.

The law contains six types of social security, implemented in stages, namely:

1. Insurance against work accidents and vocational diseases.
2. Insurance against old age, disability and death.
3. Insurance against temporary disability due to illness or maternity.
4. Health insurance for the worker and his family.
5. Family grants.
6. Insurance against unemployment.

The law stipulates that implementation of the first two types of the said social insurance begin immediately, with the other types of insurance to be implemented in stages in the future.

The law also defines those covered by the types of social security implemented namely:

1. Workers governed by the labor law.
2. Public employees not governed by the retirement system.

Industrial Relations

The importance of the issue of industrial relations has emerged by virtue of its connection with the relationship among individuals at various levels in any project they happen to be working on. The soundness and firmness of these relations help create the right climate for work. This is liable to increase productivity and enhance the capability of the workers. This is why the Ministry of Labor seeks to improve and develop the human relations between the two sides of the production process, namely, the workers and the owners, in order to establish sound foundations for firm industrial relations, curtail labor disputes and find proper and fair solutions for both sides so as to guarantee social justice, insure the continuity and progress of the production process and create the proper climate for labor relations.

The ministry's Industrial Relations Department deals with collective labor issues, supervises contracts and implementation of collective agreements between businessmen and workers and settles issues of labor recompense and compensation, in addition to supervising implementation of labor legislation provisions pertaining to workers' and businessmen's unions.

The number of collective agreements concluded last year was 16, from which more than 6,000 male and female workers benefited. The benefits are reflected in higher wages, an increased allowance for wives, higher cost of living payments and inclusion of the workers in health insurance and other benefits.

Labor Unions

The number of labor unions operating in the kingdom is 17. This number is set in accordance with the 1976 decree classifying crafts, skills and industries.

Most of these unions are centered in Amman, and some of them have branches in the kingdom's other cities.

The number of members belonging to these unions is nearly 60,000.

Businessmen's Unions

Such unions total 26, 19 of them being actual public unions.

Worker Education

Worker education is considered an important instrument in enhancing the worker's productivity and improving labor relations in the establishments through the kind of duties and rights that the worker had in accordance with the labor legislation. It is also an instrument for strengthening the worker's contribution to social and economic development issues by providing him with the simplified necessary information pertaining to this development, by encouraging workers to participate in labor education and to express their views through group discussions conducted in a scientific and organized manner to reach conclusions and convictions. Consequently, the Ministry of Labor, represented by the Labor Education Department, has devoted efforts to educating workers and to expanding their social and economic awareness, thus bolstering their productive and creative capabilities. The labor education institutes in Amman, Irbid, al-Zarqa' and al-'Aqabah seek to educate workers in the production establishments through symposiums and various courses.

Vocational Safety and Health

The kingdom's growing economic activity has been coupled with an increase in the number of production establishments and the labor force numbers. Therefore, the Ministry of Labor's responsibilities in the sphere of vocational safety and health and of improving the working conditions and environment have escalated as a result of the increased number of work accidents and injuries in various establishments.

The number of work injuries rose from 3,689 in 1980 to 6,215 in 1981 and then dropped to 5,164 last year, keeping in mind that the Ministry of Industry and Commerce licensed 156 new industrial projects last year. To get at the causes of work injuries, the Ministry of Labor has drawn a plan for the Industrial Security and Vocational Health Institute that is expected to come into existence in the next few days.

This institute is responsible for:

Watching factories, installations and establishments at various levels and of the various kinds to determine how they are implementing labor laws, regulations and instructions issued to protect the human and material production components from work accidents and vocational diseases.

Evaluating working environments to determine the operative physical, chemical, engineering and other factors in order to control them, protect the worker and enhance the level of vocational safety and health.

Conducting field research to study the problems of vocational safety and health in the various projects and to develop the proper solutions and offer technical services and assistance in this regard.

Training cadres of qualified and skilled employees to fill job vacancies needed by the kingdom in the areas of industrial safety and vocational health.

Spreading and enhancing health and protection awareness among the workers in vocational safety and health through symposiums and courses.

Studying and analyzing the work injuries and accidents to learn the causes for their occurrence and to formulate the necessary solutions and proposals for controlling or curtailing these causes.

Offering advice and guidance to the businessmen and producing guidance books, pamphlets, magazines and posters that serve vocational safety and health.

Assisting the Social Security Establishment in training the needed technical cadres and supplying and exchanging relevant data and statistics between the two sides.

Taking part in preparing and formulating the standard specifications needed for personal protective equipment and methods.

Publishing scientific research and data and coordinating with the scientific authorities working the sphere of industrial safety and vocational health, both inside and outside the kingdom.

8494

CSO: 4404/286

INCREASED CUSTOMS FEES ON CARS DISCUSSED

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Mar 83 p 9

[Interview with 'Adil al-Qudah, undersecretary of finance and customs, by Khulud al-Ja'uni; date not given]

[Text] Some may perhaps consider the customs increases imposed recently on cars by various rates somewhat high. Others may consider them very high. We have taken the questions of why the increases were made, of what rates have been adopted and numerous other questions to 'Adil al-Qudah, the undersecretary of customs, with whom we had this interview:

Car Fees

[Question] What are the reasons for the recent increases in car fees and what are the new rates?

[Answer] It is well known that customs fees are collected for imported goods and commodities according to rates set in the customs tariff list. These rates are adjusted upward or downward on the recommendation of the minister of finance and customs and the minister of trade and industry and a decree of the Council of Ministers published in the Official Gazette giving the date on which the adjustment goes into effect.

The increased rates recently introduced for cars range from 10-20 percent, depending on the car's capacity and model. Despite this increase, customs fees imposed on cars in Jordan are still lower than similar fees in the other Arab countries, excluding the Gulf.

Free Zone

[Question] What is the relationship of the free zone, in its capacity as a customs center, to the Ministry of Finance and Customs?

[Answer] Free zones are established by decree of the Council of Ministers to encourage and develop the national economy and transit trade, considering that these zones are permitted to store goods for unlimited periods without the need for import permits and without the payment of any kind of taxes and duties. In addition to this storage, other operations are also permitted in these zones,

such as direct regulation and supervision by customs authorities. The goods in the free zones are allowed to be channeled either to local consumption after the duties due on them are paid or to facilities in the kingdom exempted from fees or exported outside the kingdom. From this, we can see that the relationship between the customs authorities and the free zones is a strong one free of any conflict. The measures are taken within the framework of the laws and the powers assigned to each authority.

Customs Official

[Question] In all countries of the world, the customs official possesses technical and administrative capabilities stemming from various training courses. Where does the Jordanian customs official stand insofar as such courses are concerned?

[Answer] The Ministry of Finance and Customs is trying to provide its officials with extensive training and experience through several means, including:

1. On-the-job training by sending new employees to a major center to be trained under the supervision of the center director, who entrusts the new employee with various customs tasks for set periods during which he gains a general idea of the nature of customs work. The employee is then entrusted with a specific task in one of the customs centers. This doesn't mean that the employee will continue to perform the same task throughout his service, because he will be transferred to other centers and different tasks at later times, depending on the needs.
2. Theoretical training: The Customs Department often agrees with the Public Administration Institute to conduct special courses for certain periods of time during which the participants are given refresher lectures by high-ranking customs officials and officials of other ministries whose work is connected with customs work.
3. Intermediate [Junior] colleges: The customs agency has sent a number of employees at its expense to enroll in evening classes at these colleges. This is in addition to the scholarships that the agency gives to specialized customs institutes in the Arab, European and American countries. On top of these, this agency periodically issues explanatory circulars distributed to the employees to explain matters to them.

Customs Procedure

[Question] Please give the citizens an idea of the stages through which a custom procedure goes?

[Answer] The customs and customs tariff law and other fiscal laws demand care and accuracy in their implementation so as to avoid the collection of less or more in fees than is stipulated and to protect the rights of both the treasury and the citizens. This is why we find that the customs procedure goes through several stages before it is completed and before the goods are delivered to the owner. However, this does not prevent endeavors to simplify and facilitate these procedures and stages in order to attain the goal. The agency has agreed with one of the local firms specializing in this field to conduct modern studies aimed at reducing and modernizing these stages.

Moreover, the Ministry of Finance and Customs has concluded a contract with a foreign firm to conduct a study on the use of an electronic computer in customs work. The Amman Airport Customs Center--the Clearing Branch--has been chosen as a model for the study. For the study to be implemented directly in all centers, its results must be positive.

New Airport

[Question] Is there a customs crew trained and prepared for Queen 'Alya' Airport?

[Answer] Before talking about the customs crew presently working at the airport, I would like to point out that the objective of placing a customs crew in the passenger section of the airport is not to collect customs fees but to prevent the entry of banned goods and to transfer goods subject to customs duties to the clearing center. This means that the center has been established for protection, not for collection. Therefore, the present crew is trained to carry out its task in the best manner. Moreover, arrangements are presently underway to give this unit modern training so that it can better serve the state and the passenger.

Customs Officers' Authority

[Question] Considering that the customs employee is a member of the law enforcement authority, does he enjoy this authority or are his tasks lesser compared with those of the security agency?

[Answer] Regarding the powers of the customs officer in his capacity as a member of the law enforcement force, article 143 of customs law No 1962 empowers the customs officer to stop any means of transportation for inspection if he has reasonable cause to suspect that it carries smuggled goods.

The article also empowers him to inspect businesses to look for smuggled goods or documents or correspondence pertaining to smuggled goods or of help in uncovering any smuggling operation, including concealment of the real value of imported goods.

The law further empowers customs officers to carry the weapons supplied to them by the agency so that they can perform the responsibilities of their job, especially officers engaged in combating smuggling and chasing smugglers in the desert or on highways.

Future of Work

[Question] What is the undersecretary's view of the future of customs work?

[Answer] When we apply the customs legislation and calculate the fees levied on imported goods, we do so for the purpose of achieving one of the following goals: financial, economic or social. The first seeks the collection of fees with the aim of increasing treasury revenues. The second seeks to encourage local industries and protect them from competition by imposing high customs

fees on production similar to what is produced in Jordan. The final goal is the social one and it seeks to supply the goods needed by the people at the lowest cost, as is evident in the exemption given to food supplies and to materials used for agricultural and educational purposes and those used by religious and charitable organizations.

To serve these goals, the ministry is in the process of modernizing its legislation. This effort includes the customs bill presently before the Legal and Financial Committee of the Consultative National Council. This ministry also holds meetings from time to time with the other ministries and departments to unify and achieve the desired goals.

Boycott Office

[Question] Is there sufficient coordination between this ministry's boycott office and the Arab Boycott Office?

[Answer] There is full coordination between the Jordanian Boycott Office and the other Arab Boycott Offices, including the main boycott office in Damascus. The boycott representative attends all of the meetings and Jordan is one of the countries that implements most strictly the resolutions of the boycott offices.

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CSO: 4404/289

BRIEFS

JORDANIAN DINAR DROP--The price of the Jordanian dinar has dropped in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Our correspondent reports that a Jordanian dinar can now be bought on the market for 113 shekels. A week ago it cost 115 shekels. Our correspondent comments that this may be a result of the Jordanian announcement of the failure of the contacts with the PLO. [Text] [TA151446 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Apr 83]

POPULAR ARMY DRAFT BILL APPROVED--AL-RA'Y has learned that the cabinet has approved the popular army draft bill for 1983. The draft bill will be shortly submitted to the National Consultative Council for discussion. AL-RA'Y published the final form of the bill after it was prepared by the competent authorities. [Text] [JN161024 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 16 Apr 83 p 1]

TRANSPORT COMPANY'S PROFITS--Amman--'Ali al-Suhaymat, the minister of transport, and his delegation returned to Amman yesterday after attending the meetings of the general assembly of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company held in Baghdad. The minister said that the company's activities, accomplishments and capital and cash profits were reviewed during the meeting, pointing out that total capital and cash profits have amounted to 13.2 million dinars, including 1.6 million dinars in cash profit. The minister added that the company decided to divide the profits equally between the two countries and to repay the company's additional capital, amounting to 7.5 million dinars. Ten percent of the profits have been diverted to the compulsory reserve. Minister Suhaymat added that he reviewed with the Iraqi minister of transport issues of concern to both countries, especially ports, land transport and railroads. He added that during his visit he met with a number of Iraqi officials, led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, the first deputy prime minister, who conveyed his greetings to Prime Minister Mudar Badran. Suhaymat also met with Hasan 'Ali, minister of trade, and Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction. During his visit, Minister al-Suhaymat also familiarized himself with a number of important construction projects being implemented by fraternal Iraq. It is to be noted that the company was formed at the end of 1980 with a capital of 7.5 million dinars, which was later increased to 15 million dinars. The company owns 750 trucks which have transported 1 million tons of goods from al-'Aqabah to Iraq. The company this year seeks to transport 1.5 million tons of goods. [Text] [Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Mar 83 p 3] 8494

'KUNA' ASSESSES U.S. MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVES

LD141259 Kuwait KUNA in English 1047 GMT 14 Apr 83

["KUNA News Analysis" by Raphael Calis]

[Text] Washington, April 14 (KUNA)--The United States, still trying to recover from the stunning Jordanian refusal to enter the peace negotiations, is apparently now resorting to the carrot-and-the-stick approach in its relations with the Arab countries.

Statements made by President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz over the last few days have carried both appeals to the Palestinians and the moderate Arab countries and notes of warning to the "radical elements" in the PLO.

Both Reagan and Shultz maintained a positive role, pledging to press ahead with the Reagan peace initiative of Sept. 1 despite the "setbacks" and the "bumps" that have resulted from King Husayn's decision not to join the peace process at the present time.

Clearly looking ahead to a possible change of heart by King Husayn some time in the near future, the Reagan administration has exonerated the Jordanian monarch from any responsibility for the failure of the talks with the PLO, putting the sole blame on the shoulders of the "radicals" within the Palestinian leadership.

The direct appeal to the Palestinians came from President Reagan, "The choice facing the Palestinian leaders is either the status quo and the continued frustration of their people's aspirations or a bold and courageous move to break the deadlock."

The implicit threat to the PLO followed a few hours later Tuesday from Secretary of State Shultz, who said at a press conference that the Arab countries should perhaps revoke the decision taken at the 1974 Rabat summit conference giving the mandate to the PLO to be the sole spokesman and representative of the Palestinian people.

That was one hint of what a bankrupt Reagan administration might now attempt to do through its influence over its allies in the Arab world.

There has been talk that the administration might seek, through its Arab allies, a pan-Arab decision at the proposed summit conference in Fes soon.

Shultz made it clear that the U.S. has no more ideas up its sleeves to break the deadlock. But the hint was that the U.S. is now counting on either a change of heart by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, through some arm-twisting by the moderate Arab countries like Saudi Arabia or Morocco, or a decision by the Arab countries to permit some other group or leader to speak for the Palestinian people.

The top experts on the Middle East at the State Department admit that there is no possibility that either 'Arafat might change his mind or that the Arab countries would be able to revoke the 1974 Arab summit decision.

A further hint that the U.S. despite its pledges to continue with the Reagan initiative is bankrupt of any new ideas was also made by Shultz when he told newsmen, "I don't think we ought to equate constructive efforts with physical moves of some kind. In fact it may be the best thing we can do now is to keep quiet for a while."

Absent from all the Washington rhetoric of the last few days is any acknowledgement by the Reagan administration that Israel is equally responsible for the failure of the Reagan peace initiative.

Israel had rejected the Reagan peace proposals from the first week they were aired publicly last September. Despite continued appeals and warnings from the Reagan administration over the last several months, the Begin government has refused to halt its settlements or to indicate its readiness to withdraw from Lebanon--the two main factors that have prompted a negative Palestinian and Jordanian response to the Reagan plan.

Even a few hours before Reagan and Shultz spoke on Tuesday, Israel's Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir commented, "American notions of winning broad Arab support for Jordan's King Husayn to negotiate with Israel sounds nice, but it is fantasy, unrealistic and it cannot happen."

He added, "United States policy has once again failed and been proven mistaken. The United States should reassess its policies and make a sober assessment of what can be done in the Middle East."

Absent from all statements by U.S. officials is any reference to the fact that had Israel complied with repeated U.S. requests and warnings--on both the settlements and the withdrawal from Lebanon--both the Palestinian and Jordanian positions might have been entirely different.

There is a realization in Washington that the whole diplomatic game, while not completely dead, has gone back to square one. "It is back to the waiting game," one official commented wryly.

Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the Palestinians believe that the next move is now up to the United States. King Husayn hinted that he hoped either the

PLO could change its position or the United States might decide to reconsider its 1975 stand not to hold any dialogue with that organization. In Washington, however, this is a "no-go" proposal.

The United States, in contrast, believes the game is now in either the Palestinian or the Arab camps. It is expecting the PLO to reconsider its position and re-enter the stage by authorizing Jordan to speak on its behalf or it is hoping that the Arab states might revoke the 1974 Rabat summit decision. Either way, administration officials argue, "We have nothing new to offer any more."

But at the back of the minds of American officials are serious fears that the area might go back once again to a period of turmoil and violence. These fears were expressed by both Reagan and Shultz on Tuesday.

The fear, of course, is that the PLO, finding itself pushed to the wall, might rediscover that the only option left for it now is to resort to the armed struggle, abandoning the political option it has followed since 1975.

The U.S. is equally aware that the setbacks in the peace process might affect the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. That is why the Reagan administration is pressing ahead full speed in an attempt at bringing a settlement to the Lebanese-Israeli talks. That is one reason why U.S. special envoy Philip Habib was instructed to take a personal and active part in the bilateral border talks between Lebanon and Israel.

The overall mood in Washington is that a final agreement on withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon is only a few days away. The U.S., of course, could be once again miscalculating Israeli intentions.

CSO: 4400/292

'AL-MAJALLAH' INTERVIEWS OIL MINISTER

PM151555 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 9-15 Apr 83 pp 41-43

[Interview with Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali Khalifah al-Sabah by Wahib Muhammad Ghurab in Kuwait; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you view the oil market situation at present?

[Answer] There is no doubt that there is a feeling of instability which makes buyers refrain from buying and keeps the demand for OPEC oil low. But at the same time it is leading to heavy drawing on reserves, which will inevitably lead to high demand for OPEC oil during the second half of the current year. There is an advantage and disadvantage in everything. Demand for OPEC oil at present is low, which means an improvement in demand during the second half of this year.

[Question] What is OPEC's actual production now? Is it true it has gone down to 13.5 million barrels per day?

[Answer] I believe that it is now between 15 and 15.5 million barrels per day. It has not fallen as far as 13.5 million barrels. I do not expect that we will reach 17.5 million barrels inside the next 3 months.

[Question] With regard to the 17.5 million barrel ceiling unanimously approved, do you believe that this is the natural volume, or does OPEC need to lower the ceiling?

[Answer] The ceiling will remain as it is; that is, the countries will not exceed it. This, however, does not mean that the countries will try to reach it regardless of the effect on price. While there is a commitment to a production ceiling, there is a commitment to minimum prices. This minimum naturally will not enable us to reach the fixed ceiling in the next 3 or 4 months, and there is no country that can reach its quota within the ceiling.

[Question] Does this mean that there is a danger to OPEC?

[Answer] Never. There is no danger. The pressure may now be on OPEC, but the result of this pressure will be good during the second half of the year.

[Question] More than 3 weeks after your London agreement fixing the price at \$29 per barrel, for how long you think the new price will continue?

[Answer] I am very optimistic, because if we can maintain the price during the next 3 or 4 months--bearing in mind that during the second half of the year there will be greater demand--we can gradually increase the price to \$30, which is the main objective of our decision. After that we intend to freeze the price for 2 years.

[Question] How can the price be maintained?

[Answer] The Gulf countries normally stick to the letter of OPEC resolutions with regard to both prices and production. If everybody sticks to the recent resolutions--and my feeling is that everybody is aware of the risks of not sticking to them--we will overcome the critical phase and our reward will come during the second half of the year.

[Question] Will you be able to maintain the new price despite the pressures from outside OPEC?

[Answer] I believe we will be able to do so despite the pressures. All that I hope for is that everybody will have the patience and the endurance during the coming 4 months, after which we will pass the critical phase.

[Question] It is known that Nigeria violated the price fixed by OPEC as a result of the British decision. There are hints now that Britain will reduce its oil prices. So will Nigeria stick to the new price?

[Answer] First of all we should not hasten to make judgments and say that Nigeria violated the agreement. We must understand Nigeria's position. During the past 2 years it adhered to the prices to the point that on three occasions its production reached almost zero. In a country of 80 million people this causes great problems. After a period of strict adherence to the agreement, it announced that it could no longer carry on. This is much better than those who claim adherence to prices and give discounts under the table.

[Question] With regard to Iran, it recently announced through Rafsanjani that it does not approve of the new price structure and that it is illegal.

[Answer] I also wish that Iran's situation could be understood in the wider context, because Iran used to say that it did not wish to reduce the price below \$34. Iran is also under special pressure because of loading from Kharg and the high insurance premium on that loading. We must view each country from the angle of its own situation and not just be critical.

[Question] The Soviet Union has reduced its oil prices, and Egypt and other oil-producing countries have adopted a similar step. What effect does such a reduction have on the oil market?

[Answer] First of all when you mention Egypt you must remember that it produces 200,000 barrels per day, and so it is not going to break OPEC's back if it sells for \$10 or \$30. As for Russia, it never abided by OPEC prices.

[Question] In a recent statement the U.S. secretary of state predicted that the price will go as low as \$25 per barrel. What is your comment on this?

[Answer] I hope that this will not happen, because in the long term it will not be in the interest of the oil-consuming countries. There is a fact that everybody should realize: that the more the oil price drops today, the more it rises in the future. Drastic change in oil prices is followed by problems as the world economy acclimatizes to it--something that is not in the interest of the producing or the consuming countries.

[Question] There are those who favor reducing production below its present level so as to enable OPEC to control the market.

[Answer] This was what we applied when we talked about the 17.5 million barrel ceiling as a maximum. And since this is coupled with agreement on prices, then production will not exceed 16 million barrels during the second quarter of this year. And since there is another resolution that says that this is the maximum that can be reached in any quarter, what we lose in production during the second quarter we cannot make up during the third or fourth quarter, which means that OPEC's average production will remain under 17 million barrels per day.

[Question] The fact that OPEC countries have been forced to reduce their prices is regarded as evidence of the success of Western plans to undermine the organization's role and destroy its powerful structure. Is this true?

[Answer] Let us look at the subject from another angle. The logical result of the rapid rise in prices over a short period of time was that any reasonable person sought to reduce his consumption and invest in oil substitutes. So it was we who created the conditions that led to the present situation, not a deliberate plan to break OPEC. The reduction of prices to too low a level will reverse the situation. The reduction of prices will mean that the consumer will be less reserved in his consumption and will have no justification for seeking a substitute. Therefore the issue is one of market factors and not of a deliberate plan.

CSO: 4400/292

KUWAIT

BRIEFS

CITIZENSHIP PLAN--The Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' today quoted reliable sources as saying that there is a government plan to grant Kuwaiti citizenship to the military personnel who have served in the police force and the army in Kuwait for 10 years or more. [GF171027 Doha GNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 17 Apr 83]

CSO: 4400/292

SOURCES CLAIM PIERRE AL-JUMAYYIL MAKING CHANGES IN PARTY

LD092000 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 9 Apr 83

[Text] London, April 9 (KUNA)--Reports arriving here from Lebanon indicated Saturday that head of the rightist Lebanese Phalangist Party Pierre al-Jumayyil is currently making serious changes in the party.

Reliable sources who demanded anonymity told KUNA here that despite a total blackout, reports were leaked on the leaders' intention to liquidate the "Lebanese forces" and reorganize them in accordance with new basis.

The sources expected that the decision will be challenged by Samir Ja'ja who is currently considered the strong man in the party after taking over leadership of the two major military fronts namely in the north where Palestinian and Syrian forces are deployed along with (al-Marada) forces of the former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah's party.

The other area is Mount Lebanon where daily clashes are reported pitting the Phalangist militias against forces of the Socialist Progressive Party led by Walid Jumblatt.

Another trend within the party having strong links with Israel will object to the decision, the sources said and named (Deib Anastaz) and (Maroun Habika) as the main supporters of closer connections with the Jewish entity.

The sources said that the Phalangists' new policy is based on installing party elements within the state's ministries and official cadres.

Pierre al-Jumayyil, who is the father of President Amin al-Jumayyil, is currently attempting to stop the issuance of ("al-Waa'd") and ("al-Masira") monthly magazines which are controlled by pro-Bashir al-Jumayyil elements.

The party leader finds that "al-Amal" and "La Revue" papers and "Sawt Lebanon" broadcasting station are enough for the party's news.

CSO: 4400/290

BRIEFS

FRENCH LOAN FOR ARMY--A ceremony was held today at the National Defense Ministry during which the protocol for the French financial loan to equip the Lebanese Army was signed by Minister of National Defense 'Isam Khuri, who represented the Lebanese Government, and Eng Marc (Hauchet), director of international affairs in the French General Mission for Armament, who represented the French Government on behalf of the defense minister. The signing ceremony was attended by Army Commander Gen Ibrahim Tannus; Deputy Alain Hautecoeur, coordinator of French aid to Lebanon; French Ambassador to Lebanon Paul Marc Henry; French military attache Col Albert (Ausel); and the delegation accompanying Deputy Hautecoeur. The loan is worth 600 million French francs. [Text] [NC161827 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Apr 83]

IDF SAID CONSTRUCTING NEW AIRFIELD--The daring operations against the occupation forces are being escalated at a time when these forces are adopting military arrangements indicating their intention to occupy Lebanese territories for a long time. The Lebanese National Resistance members have attacked an Israeli position along the An-Nabatiyah-Jazzin road. Two hand grenades were hurled at the center of the Musa Sa'dah hospital. The explosion resulted in cutting the electricity supply in the area and caused enormous material damage. The enemy's loss of life is not yet known. The occupation forces raided many houses in the area and arrested some citizens. Following the construction of the military airfield in ad-Damur, which receives military transport aircraft, it is reported that the occupation forces are now working on sites in 'Ayn Zhalta to construct a military airfield there. In the Al-Biq'a', tension continues to prevail along the contact lines separating the Syrian forces and the Israeli occupation forces, who have set up new positions and fortifications along the Al-Birah axis opposite As-Sultan Ya'qub. The Syrian forces set up similar fortifications and reinforced their positions with tanks and sophisticated equipment. [Excerpts] [NC180724 Voice of Arab Lebanon (Clandestine) in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Apr 83]

CSO: 4400/290

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

PLO RADIO POLITICAL EDITOR ON U.S. 'PRESSURE'

JN141900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Commentary by PLO Radio political editor]

[Text] The concentrated U.S. pressure on the Arabs based on incitement against the PLO is not new in any case. The PLO, the Arabs, and the Palestinian masses in particular, are not surprised by this pressure because the U.S. administration, which attempts to appear balanced and sympathetic toward Palestinian rights, has not succeeded in playing this role to the end. All U.S. statements in this regard confirm this fact.

Expressions such as Palestinian extremism, terrorism and violence and the withdrawal of Arab recognition of the PLO affirm U.S. incompetence and collapse with its attack on the PLO in an attempt to cover up for and justify this incompetence. The PLO refuses to allow anyone to classify it into groups of extremists and moderates. The PLO is one struggling body embodying a united national line and all its differing individual opinions contribute in the end to the general national course through democratic and unitary traditions, as represented by the PLO leadership headed by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat].

Opposing this fact, which is well known to and treasured by our people, are the pressuring U.S. statements on extremism and moderation, which are unable to influence or affect our people. The PLO is very extremist in adhering to the Palestinian rights and land. The PLO is also very flexible in carrying out political action and in adopting positions that will help regain national rights. This fact is not new but has been the main characteristic of Palestinian action since the birth of the revolution. Thus, confident as we are of the sound Palestinian national structure and of the people's strong rallying round the PLO, its course and positions, we say to transgressors and forgers that the PLO, which has stood fast against successive military massacres for 18 years, is able to foil the enemies' political massacres. Thus, the PLO is armed with the popular Palestinian position, the national Palestinian decision and the revolutionary Palestinian rifle, which is supported by a mammoth popular Arab cohesion.

CSO: 4400/293

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

PLO RADIO ON DIALOGUE WITH JORDAN

JN130825 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1734 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Station commentary: "Let Us Try a New Method for Agreement or Disagreement"]

[Text] Any politician will tell you that agreement and disagreement on stands cannot take place mechanically. We cannot agree today because we are in a good mood and disagree tomorrow because we are in a different mood. Such things do not happen in politics, especially between responsible sides which are tackling the most important and complicated political issue of our age: namely, the Palestine question.

A healthy agreement that survives and rejuvenates is an agreement on interests and objectives. As long as our interests and objectives are one, then we must agree in order that we can reap the fruits together or ward off the danger together.

In politics, serious differences are bound to occur in viewpoints and tackling methods. Such things occur even between members of one family. But the question is: How are we to tackle such differences and bring the various viewpoints closer together? In our Arab world, agreement and disagreement are governed by unhealthy customs. When we differ, we begin defaming one another, so that it would seem to the spectator that we are about to declare war on one another and that peace has become an impossibility. When we agree--which very often in our Arab world is an emotional outburst--we embrace one another in an exaggerated manner. We also bring out all the positive expressions from the archives and circulate them in the political and press market. It is as if our disagreement in the past was temporary and our agreement in the future will be eternal. These, without exaggeration, are the laws or rituals of agreement and disagreement in our Arab world.

To be objective in our assessment of the results of this line in inter-Arab relations, it is sufficient to say these results have greatly harmed our issues and interests. As a matter of fact, people have ceased to respect any Arab agreement or disagreement. They simply turn to their own small problems and completely ignore the intellectuals and commentators. Thus, the Arab cannot do anything but say: O God guide my people.

After this long introduction, we will now get straight to the point: namely, the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. We would like those who are in favor and enthusiastic about this relationship, and even those who are against it, to pardon us, because we are going to speak about this matter without resorting to the hackneyed expressions we have heard since the emergence of something called Jordan and Palestine and which we have heard even more often since the beginning of the political dialogue between the Jordanian Government and the PLO.

The political dialogue which took place during several sessions over the past few months was on one specific subject: namely, how we can together deal with the peace challenge which the United States has unleashed in our faces after the recent war in Lebanon. Undoubtedly, what has made this dialogue more difficult and complicated and resulted in different assessments by the interlocutors, is that Jordan considers the Reagan plan an opportunity for peace which would achieve all or some of the interests of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. On the other hand, the PLO believes that the Reagan plan has some positive points, but it will not achieve the minimum demands of the Palestinians and Arabs.

Despite the different assessments, there was sufficient room for dialogue and seeking points of agreement. As the Palestinians and Jordanians proceeded further in their dialogue, the world exaggerated by linking the fate of peace to this dialogue. In fact, matters reached a point where important world commentators presented what was taking place in Amman as the cornerstone for laying the bases of a new peace in the region made up of a sprinkle of the Camp David heritage, a smell of Reagan and a shade of Fes. Despite the brilliant description they gave to a matter which failed to materialize, the commentators completely ignored the other important side of the picture; by that we mean the outright Israeli rejection of the Reagan plan and the failure of the United States to give any serious indications about its ability to fulfill its pledges whether concerning the freezing of settlements or securing even partial Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Western media concentrated on the Jordanian-Palestinian side of the picture and thus succeeded in forcibly placing the ball in the Jordanian-Palestinian court. The Western media wagered that like all Arabs, the Palestinians and Jordanians would quarrel among themselves and blame one another for the failure. Thus, Reagan and Begin would come out clean and we would be held responsible for the failure and for losing the golden opportunities and all other such expressions which are being used against us unjustifiably.

Now, the political talks have been suspended. It is no secret that both the Palestinians and Jordanians feel bitter, not only because an important venue for political action has been closed, albeit temporarily, but also because the time provided to bring such talks to a conclusion was short. Many sessions of talks were rushed by the United States. It was as if we, the Palestinians and Jordanians, alone should pay our bills and other people's bills. The Israelis, who disgraced U.S. credibility before the whole world, were not rushed by the United States to withdraw from Lebanon and freeze the settlements or at least make a declaration of intention or even issue a statement welcoming the Reagan plan.

The Jordanian-Palestinian political talks were stopped as a result of the urgent questions, the short time and the demand for immediate answers. This is very sorrowful indeed. But the question now posed to us all, Jordanians and Palestinians, is summed up as follows: Will we return to our Arab traditions of agreement and disagreement or resort to a new method by which we will respect what we have agreed on and continue the dialogue to increase the points of agreements and eliminate the points of disagreement? There are real signs for optimism. There is another course which, if we agree on, would be a good step toward achieving our common interests. This course is convincing the world, and Washington in particular, that the ball is in the U.S. and Israeli court and that the time factor has to be decided by the Americans and Israel. As for us, Jordanians, Palestinians and Arabs, we can only hold to our rights and fight for their achievement by the same means. If the Americans produce a solution which serves our interests, we will not hesitate to accept it. But if the Americans continue to make initiatives and statements and ask us to assume responsibility for their failure, this might deceive some simple people for some time, but it will never change the rules and traditions of politics and will not absolve the United States of the responsibility for the situation in the region. Weakening the situation definitely means opening the doors wide for all options, including the war option.

CSO: 4400/293

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

PLO INSTITUTE SET UP IN BEIRUT--The PLO has recently begun to set up again the infrastructure of the "Palestinian Research Institute" in the building of the Senegalese Embassy in West Beirut. As may be recalled, during the Peace for Galilee campaign the IDF confiscated most of the documents of the archives of the "Researchers Center," and the activity of the institute has until recently been restricted to the PLO offices in the building on (Colombiano) Street in West Beirut. The PLO's "Research Institute" has become an important PLO center in Beirut since the Peace for Galilee campaign. It is from there that the organization tries to continue its political, social and other activity among the Palestinian public. Transferring part of this activity to the Senegalese Embassy building stems, among other things, from difficulties the Central Lebanese Government piles on the continued activity of the PLO institutions in West Beirut. [Text] [TA151112 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Apr 83 p 2]

CSO: 4400/293

DAILY URGES U.S. TO RECOGNIZE PLO, MODIFY POLICY

PM140923 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 11 Apr 83 p 3

[International affairs editor's article: "Dangers of U.S. Slow Pace Toward Peace"]

[Text] The U.S. administration's recent moves indicate that it is aware of the dangers threatening U.S. credibility as a result of the present stalemate in the tripartite talks in Lebanon and the U.S. intransigence on the question of recognizing the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The U.S. plan announced by President Reagan last September has not so far found its way to implementation in Lebanon. Furthermore, it does not acknowledge the [Palestinian people's] right to self-determination and to an independent Palestinian state.

In fact, the U.S. administration's reluctance to take strong and effective steps to bring about a withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon and to recognize the PLO have impeded peace efforts in the region.

We do not think that President Reagan's administration should adhere to the commitment made by previous administrations that no negotiations would be held with the PLO because such adherence would adversely affect U.S. credibility in the region and ultimately prove detrimental to the U.S. higher interests. This is because Israel, regardless of the claims made by its ruling Zionist gang in Tel Aviv, will never be able to play the role of policeman to protect these interests or ward off any communist threat to the area. The truth, which the Reagan administration is beginning to grasp, is that the only power capable of safeguarding joint interests and warding off any communist danger is the power of the Arab nation, not any other power. The only role the Zionist state can play is to perpetuate the lack of security and stability as a result of its expansionist policy in Arab territory and its continued occupation of Lebanon and the Arab West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The lack of security and stability resulting from the Israeli policies will reflect considerably on the U.S. credibility and interests in the region unless the Reagan administration moves quickly to correct previous mistakes by:

1. Recognizing the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and stopping all attempts to bypass the PLO or create alternatives to it.
2. Recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to their own independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.
3. Bringing about a withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon and the Golan.

A U.S. response to these demands would rectify the U.S. political course in the Middle East and confirm that the United States really wants a just and lasting peace in the Arab region.

There may be some signs that the United States is beginning to modify its attitude, especially since the suspension of the delivery of the consignment of sophisticated F-16 aircraft to Israel. However, the U.S. steps should be faster and in tempo with the developments in the Arab region, which Israel is trying to heat up and escalate to the verge of real war.

The circumstances surrounding the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is now at a sharp crossroads, make it incumbent upon Washington to quickly modify its attitude in support of right, justice and peace.

The Arab nation and the Palestinians have done everything in their power to lay the foundations of a just and comprehensive settlement. The Arabs and the Palestinians have nothing more to offer. It is now up to the U.S. administration to prove its desire to promote a just and comprehensive settlement. We say that the Reagan plan should not be the end of the road or the last word as far as the United States is concerned because the negative aspects of that plan far outnumber its positive aspects.

The U.S. administration should at least provide evidence that it is capable of producing an agreement providing for the complete withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from Lebanon and of freezing the building of settlements in the occupied West Bank.

CSO: 4400/291

REACTIONS TO SUSPENSION OF PLO-JORDAN TALKS ASSESSED

LD141359 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Analysis by 'Abdallah Sulayman (al-Khayif)]

[Text] The Middle East problem has, during the past few hours, aroused the interest of many international politicians, so much so that urgent moves have taken place at various levels, particularly following the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations. This does not mean, from the Jordanian-Palestinian point of view, more than a disagreement on a proposed way to tackle the Middle East crisis, there being full agreement on the need to solve it, but in a way agreed upon by all the Arabs and backed by Jordan as one of the Arab states which has been playing a true pan-Arab role since the beginning of the problems between the Arabs and the Jews.

Conflicting reactions occurred in many world capitals and on the international arenas as a result of the suspension of these negotiations. Some of these reactions, particularly the tendentious ones, tried to inflate this question, and indeed portrayed it as a relapse in the talks between the two sides or the beginning of rupture in relations between them.

But officials in both Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization have made statements putting an end to such wrong interpretations. Jordanian officials have stressed that relations with the PLO will continue normally and will remain warm and strong. Moreover, the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committees will continue their work at all levels and Jordan will continue to back the Palestinian issue. On its part, PLO officials also affirmed the continuation of good fraternal relations with the Jordanian brothers, and said that the relations which link the Palestinians with Jordan are too strong to be affected by mere agreement or disagreement over any issue concerning the Palestinian question.

Nevertheless, the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations has aroused the interests of political observers. Some of them have expressed fear that this might lead to the postponement of the emergency Arab summit called for by King Hassan II for this month. With this quick reaction to the Middle East problem, it has been reported that intensive contacts are now underway among the countries of the European initiative to resolve the

Arab-Israeli dispute. Moreover, it has also been reported that U.S. President Reagan will shortly announce a new, revised plan to his previous plan to establish peace in the Middle East. This is in line with what was pointed out earlier by Jordanian official sources to the effect that the next step should come from the PLO, or from the United States itself, to reconsider the Reagan plan whereby it would take into consideration the PLO's demand with regard to the right to self-determination or for the Palestinians to abandon such a demand, which seems impossible.

Reports have also confirmed that the United States is anxious to back its peaceful attempts by, according to what has been reported, exercising fresh pressures on Israel to achieve a quick withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon and freeze the building of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

At any rate, the next few days will witness further moves aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East. But in the view of many international observers any such moves and attempts must, in order to succeed, come much closer to the Arab peace plan which forms a new basis for ending the dispute between the Arabs and Israel in a just manner that would ensure the establishment and the continuation of peace in this region.

CSO: 4400/291

CONCERTED ARAB MOVES TO CONFRONT ISRAEL URGED

LD171410 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Apr 83

["Analysis" by Samir Habib Bakhish]

[Excerpts] As Israel continues its expansionist aggressive policy in the region, and while the Iraqi-Iranian war continues and its dangers increase, the need to convene an Arab summit increases day by day to debate at the highest level conditions in the Arab arena and the development of events in the region. Actually, the reasons for postponing the Arab summit, so observers stress, lie in a number of things.

First: To give the Arab kings and presidents the opportunity to hold further consultations and to adopt decisions and postures in line with the development of conditions in the Arab arena.

Second: To await the outcome of the tripartite negotiations currently being held between Lebanon, Israel and the United States regarding the withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon. It is known that the tripartite negotiations are being blocked by a number of obstacles erected by Israel, especially regarding the security measures in southern Lebanon and the joint patrols in addition to the position of the separatist Sa'd Haddad and the role of the UN international emergency forces in Lebanon.

Without any doubt, the Arab nation hopes that the Arab leaders, in their forthcoming conference, will put a halt to Israel's aggressive expansionist practices in the region.

Since the Arab nation was unanimous at the Fes summit 7 months ago regarding the unified Arab peace plan, and through it outlined a strategy for the forthcoming stage, the task of implementing this plan requires further effort, especially after this plan was internationally acclaimed and received. This emerged during the visits of the seven-member committee set up by the Fes summit to the capitals of the major powers, permanent members of the Security Council.

By marshalling Arab energies and potentials, through activity on all Arab and international levels and by using all legitimate means, the Arab nation hopes to achieve a just peace in the region and to confront the Zionist plans.

All that remains is to point out that the international community should shoulder its responsibilities in full toward the establishment of an all-embracing and just peace in the region especially in view of the fact that Israel, through its behavior and practices, is threatening peace in this region, which at the same time constitutes a threat to world peace and security.

CSO: 4400/291

PLANNING MINISTER DETAILS NEXT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

LD131545 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, April 13, SPA--The Third Five Year Development Plan will not be affected by the drop in oil prices and will have an average growth target of 6.2 percent, Saudi Planning Minister Hisham Nazir was quoted as saying in an interview published here today.

He told the weekly magazine AL-YAMAMAH [spelling as received] that the growth percentage was the result of accurate calculations which had taken into account government expenditure as a whole, the percentage of inflation and the volume of foreign manpower.

"The plan has also calculated expenditure for every sector and the expected growth," Mr Nazir added.

Mr Nazir said, "Although, we have fixed the growth percentage at 6.2 percent for this plan, yet we were able to achieve an 11 percent growth rate in the first year of the third plan and 10 percent in the second year of the plan. It means we have been able to almost double the growth percentage.

"We were able to finish the infrastructure by the beginning of the third plan and (?later) shifted the weight of the plan from investment to production in order to diversify economic resources. This also suggests that investment in the infrastructure will drop notably," he added.

Referring to basic services, Mr Nazir said the kingdom had nearly achieved set records in this field.

"Moreover, the government has adopted a policy to reduce its dependency on oil revenue as well as resorted to build a broad production base by directing investments to the agricultural and industrial sectors," he added.

Mr Nazir stressed the need to lessen dependency on crude oil and underlined the importance of creating other sources of income because this would lead to better economic conditions.

Referring to solar energy and plans to find alternative energy sources because oil is considered a deplete wealth, he said, "We are planning in future to introduce alternative energy sources because we will not waste the oil as an energy source, but it will be utilised in industry."

He added that the kingdom had good potential for exploiting solar energy in view of its vast area and sunny weather.

"But, we should not be over-optimistic since solar energy is very costly and its storage needs vast areas to establish solar dishes and ground stations. Moreover some states have totally ignored solar energy and research in the field," Mr Nazir said.

The Arab League Information Department will be represented at the conference along with delegates from the Information Department of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the Islamic Broadcasting Stations Organisation, the Union of Arab Radio Stations and the Arab Center for Radio and Television Training.

Replying to a question on whether the development plan provided for Saudi citizens to play their role in the production stage, Mr Nazir strongly refuted claims that Saudis were "reckless and do not accept minor jobs."

"There is no evidence or proof for such unjust claims," he added.

The planning minister said qualifying citizens takes a long time and a lot of training to enable them to play their role in the production phase.

Commenting on the issue of citizens refraining from joining public sector Mr Nazir said, "Figures show that there is no shortage in the public sector's manpower."

Referring to an increase in "the alien manpower" although the development plan has shifted from the infrastructure phase to the production phase, he said, "infrastructure is going on has shown a 10 percent increase despite plans to reduce it by 2.5 percent annually. [as received] As a result of this the alien manpower has increased lately."

Mr Nazir said the alien manpower represented by maids, drivers and tailors was a burden on the kingdom's development and that it should be stopped immediately.

He reaffirmed the kingdom's keenness to intensify vocational and technical training programmes to "prepare Saudi technical cadres needed for development projects and to replace alien cadres."

"The fourth development plan will concentrate on qualifying Saudi citizens, providing them with better services and raising their standard of living," Mr Nazir said.

Replying to a question on whether there was any intention to introduce a tax system, the planning minister ruled out the possibility of introducing the system for the time being.

"There is nothing that will prevent us from applying this system if we decide that it is necessary to protect national products or prevent investment in a certain sector," Mr Nazir said.

CSO: 4400/291

BRIEFS

REFINED OIL PRODUCTS OUTPUT--Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Tahir, governor of the General Establishment for Petroleum and Minerals [PETROMIN], has stated that the kingdom's output of exported refined oil products is 825,000 barrels per day and output of exported liquid gas is approximately 12 million tons yearly, which is very high. In a statement to the newspaper AL-YAWM, he said: The kingdom is capable of doubling the exported refined oil output to 1.5 million barrels per day. He referred to the kingdom's huge minerals wealth, saying: There is no need to rush to exploit it so long as there is no need to do so at present. He affirmed that these minerals have a role in serving the national economy, explaining that they can be exploited in local industrialization in which the kingdom is taking good steps. He said the kingdom's concern with industry affirms our wise government's anxiousness to develop national industry so as to achieve self-sufficiency in all fields. [Text] [GF092018 Riyadh Domestic Television in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Apr 83]

NEW AIR BASE HEADQUARTERS--Dhahran, April 18, SPA--Saudi Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today formally opened a new headquarters for King 'Abd al-'Aziz Air Base. The new building is made up of two stories with 24 offices, a conference hall and a mosque. The building spread over an area of 1,650 square metres was completed in 18 months. Prince Sultan toured Shams al-Salam housing project which was part of the base plan to accommodate its staff. The project includes 60 housing units as well as schools, shopping centres and mosques. Later, Prince Sultan met with Saudi pilots and expressed satisfaction with their services in defending Islamic shrines and the kingdom. [Text] [LD190156 Riyadh SPA in English 1904 GMT 18 Apr 83]

CSO: 4400/291

'TISHRIN' EDITORIAL SCORES U.S. 'PRESSURES' ON PLO

JN180929 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0715 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 18 Apr (SANA)--TISHRIN stresses that the U.S. pressures which the region is currently witnessing are aimed at depriving the PLO of its natural right of being the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

In today's editorial, TISHRIN adds: The region is witnessing a campaign of U.S. pressures unprecedented in any period of its history. This campaign aims at making King Husayn's participation in the settlement negotiations indisputable even if the PLO will not agree.

TISHRIN says: Scrutiny of the Jordanian statement shows it to be full of attempts to holding the PLO responsible for the failure of the negotiations which will enable King Husayn, at a later date, to launch his direct and indirect threats against the PLO.

The paper points out that King Husayn's threats were manifested in his talk about Jordan's national security, which reflects negatively on relations with the Palestinians in the West Bank. These threats were also crystallized by his emphasis that the Amman talks were held among three parties, namely, Jordan, the PLO and Palestinian figures in the West Bank. This is indirect insinuation that the PLO is not the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

TISHRIN adds: The covert threats against the Palestinians have moved to overtness, which has prompted the Palestinian leadership to announce that a meeting will soon be held comprising the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian factions' leaders to reach a final stand toward the Jordanian option.

The paper adds: All this proves the credibility of the Syrian stand and the soundness of its decision to the effect that there is no difference between Zionists and imperialists, because they are two faces of the same coin which means aggression against the Arab nation in an attempt to entrench the Zionist occupation and to reimpose imperialist hegemony over the region.

Concluding, TISHRIN stresses: Syria is putting all its capabilities into foiling this design by any means and by any method.

CSO: 4400/294

HEALTH COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH USSR

JN141536 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 14 Apr (SANA)--Syria and the USSR signed here today a protocol for health cooperation. Health Minister Dr Ghasub al-Rifa'i signed for Syria and USSR Health Minister Dr Sergey Burenkov signed for the USSR. Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, the Syrian ambassador in Moscow, and members of the Syrian and USSR delegations attended the signing. The two ministers stressed the need for and importance of strengthening relations between the two friendly countries, particularly in the health field.

The protocol provides for developing the medical services between the two countries, exchanging expertise and medical knowledge, inviting scientists and specialists to participate in conferences pertaining to health and medical sciences and stressing the need to organize contacts between the institutions which are researching epidemics, medical parasitology, infectious diseases, health education, environmental health and eye diseases, as well as other fields.

The protocol stipulates that the USSR continues to accept students, trainees and postgraduate students in the medical institutions within the framework of the cultural agreements signed by the two countries. It also provides for the treatment of patients who cannot be treated in their country.

The USSR health minister described the signing of the protocol as a new step in health cooperation between the two countries which affirms and strengthens friendship and cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

CSO: 4400/294

BULGARIA, SYRIA SIGN PROTOCOL IN DAMASCUS

JN161630 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 16 Apr (SANA)--The protocol of the eighth session of the Joint Syrian-Bulgarian Committee for Economic and Scientific Cooperation between Syria and Bulgaria was signed here today. Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs, signed for Syria and Georgi Pavlov Georgiev, Bulgarian minister of state and chairman of the Committee for the Protection of the Environment, signed for Bulgaria. The members of the two delegations and the Bulgarian ambassador, Georgi Yankov Georgiev, attended the signing celebrations.

The protocol includes recommendations and agreements for commercial exchange between the two friendly countries for the years 1983-1985 in order to achieve balance and increase the variety of commodities exported to Bulgaria. The protocol also provides for the implementation of economic, technical and commercial cooperation projects between the corporations of the two countries and the overcoming of difficulties facing the two sides in this respect.

The protocol also provides for scientific and technical cooperation and exchange of expertise in tourism and public health. A number of agreements were signed during the session between the corporations of the two friendly countries to carry out various studies and projects in irrigation and land reform. A protocol in electricity was also signed by Muwaffaq Nuri, assistant minister of electricity, for Syria and by the Bulgarian assistant minister of energy for Bulgaria.

At the end of the celebrations, Dr Sharaf and Georgi Pavlov Georgiev exchanged friendly words expressing the deep friendship between the two countries.

CSO: 4400/294

SYRIA

BRIEFS

ARMED FORCES' TACTICAL EXERCISE--Damascus, 16 Apr (SANA)--One of our combat formations here today carried out a tactical exercise in which various forces participated with the cooperation of air force fighter planes and helicopters. The practical implementation stage of the exercise was attended by Gen Mustaf Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Syrian Army and Armed Forces and defense minister; Maj Gen 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff for operations and training affairs; Dr Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; and several officers of the General Command of the Army and Armed Forces. The practical stages of the exercise included occupying certain lines, striking at enemy capabilities and creating suitable combat conditions through the cooperation of various ground and air forces. [Text] [JN161557 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Apr 83]

CSO: 4400/294

SOVIET TACTICS FOR PROTRACTED WARFARE STUDIED

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German No 45, 13 Apr 83 p 12

[Article by Klaus Natorp: "Now It's A War Of Attrition in Afghanistan-- New Soviet Tactics Pose Problems for the Resistance"]

[Text] Islamabad--The "indirect" negotiations presently taking place in Geneva between Pakistani Minister of Foreign Affairs Shabzada Yaqub Khan and Afghan Minister of Foreign Affairs Dost, assisted by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's special envoy Diego Cordovez, which are attempting to find a "political solution" for Afghanistan, are an exercise which disregards those who are most concerned: the Afghan resistance fighters, also known as Mujahedin. While, as reported, their effectiveness may have diminished somewhat during the last few months, they have not yet lost; in fact, they may well resume their fight with renewed courage after the winter lull against the hated Soviet occupation force and its lackeys, the Afghans who are cooperating with the Russians. Even those people who do not have a very high opinion of the combat effectiveness of the Afghan resistance consider it probable that the Mujahedin will be able to hold out another 3 or 4 years.

For a power like the USSR, which engages in long-term planning, 3 or 4 years is a period about which it need not worry. To all appearances, the Soviet high command in Afghanistan is planning on much longer periods than that. The Russians have apparently realized that no quick victory is possible in this war. They remember that it took them several decades to vanquish the Muslim peoples of the Asian SSRs and are ready to accept the fact that the Afghan tribes too will keep them busy for some years to come.

Militarily, there are no indications whatever that the USSR is preparing to retreat from Afghanistan. On the contrary, everything points toward long-term planning on the part of Moscow. The rumor heard after Brezhnev's death that his successor Andropov had an interest in an early end to the Afghan adventure which had proven militarily, economically and politically debilitating for the USSR, cannot be proven with military facts. The Russians are working everywhere to reinforce their positions in the most important towns and along the main traffic arteries. Airfields are systematically enlarged to accept ever larger aircraft; the Soviets use the same amount of energy in reinforcing their supply depots and troop housing.

The tactical disposition of the units too has been adapted to a longer-term strategy. Quick victories are no longer the goal; a war of attrition lasting several years is expected to gain the final victory. The present motto appears to be to beat the enemy with his own weapons. What this means is that where in the past the Afghans primarily attacked Soviet replacement columns out of hiding, now Soviet troops attack Afghan supply units out of hiding. More and more frequently, Mujahedin find themselves exposed to surprise attacks on mule paths which had hitherto been considered safe: the Russians plan ambushes where, according to their reconnaissance, the resupply columns are likely to travel.

Another Soviet objective appears to be this: "Split up and neutralize the resistance." They had tried to do this earlier, but ineptly. Now they proceed with greater sophistication: no longer do they bother with the weakest of the tribal leaders, those who are most likely to fall for financial enticements, but who are insignificant in terms of the fighting; now they deal with the respected, courageous front commanders, those Afghans who cannot be bought. With them, the Soviets try to make armistice deals in the sense of "you leave us alone, we leave you alone." It is said that they used this ploy to persuade the legendary Mujahedin commander Massoud in the Panjshir Valley to retreat into the mountains on both sides of the valley, where he is not being bothered if he leaves the Soviet troops and their Afghan vassal units alone on their communications routes in the valley.

This agreement is allegedly functioning smoothly to date. However, it has not been established that it exists at all. It might well be that the rumor about the Russians' deal with Massoud is pure invention, or that Massoud only pretended to make it, and that he has long since resumed his operations against the Soviet occupation forces. There are however reports from other parts of Afghanistan about similar armistice deals with other prominent heroes of the resistance. Large areas of Afghanistan have hardly been touched by the fighting anyway since the Soviet intervention and have lately been left entirely alone. That too is a part of the present Soviet tactics, to first solidify their position in a few permanent bases, to leave the neighboring countryside alone and not to deal with those sanctuaries until later.

For the leaders of Afghan political parties in exile in Peshawar, Pakistan, this new development poses a double danger. Their influence, which is much smaller than claimed by the leaders of the various groups in Peshawar, threatens to diminish further if they should be unable in the future to send sufficient quantities of material into the combat zone. Until now, they were able to buy the Mujahedin commanders' loyalty by supplying them with war materiel. Arms and ammunition, medicines and food--those were the implements of power of the parties in exile and their leaders. In return, the front commanders permitted the people in Peshawar to designate their respective regions as being under their influence. Whether or not this was true is another question. Many tribal leaders surely "sold themselves" several times over in this manner; the main thing was to have a good supply of arms.

Should the new Soviet tactics be successful in reducing or entirely serving the resistance groups' supply lines, then the influence which the exiled resistance groups can still bring to bear with respect to the amount and distribution of resupply would rapidly diminish. The resistance inside Afghanistan would then have to depend still more than heretofore upon such materiel as it could take away from the Soviets in combat or what it would receive from Afghan deserters. At the same time, the exiled political leaders would become leaders without Mujahedin. In any "political solution" which might be concluded these days their voices would not count for much, since the power would then shift to combat group commanders inside Afghanistan who have Mujahedin under their command.

Claims of political parties have anyway always been limited at the point where tribal affiliation enters into the equation; this is still the primary consideration with most Afghans. Lately the tendency has become even stronger to engage in resistance activities on a tribal basis, because this is also the best guarantee against infiltration by informers and spies. The groups in exile in Peshawar lose significance to the same extent. With their constant dissension they are a constant source of irritation to the fighters in the field. Contributors of money and arms supplies too are increasingly irritated about the constant strife within the Afghan "communications zone." to which the Pakistani host country contributes significantly as well by giving obvious preferential treatment to certain resistance groups in the distribution of resupply materiel, in the quantity as well as the quality of the materiel which is passed through. There are rumors that the Pakistani army often reroutes some of the best pieces into its own arsenal and then replaces them with obsolete Pakistani army materiel.

Afghan and Soviet intelligence is of course fully aware of all these goings-on in great detail, since infiltration has become a fine art-- despite many cruel executions for deterrence at the slightest suspicion. The reverse is true also: the Afghans (and therefore usually the Pakistanis too) know just about everything there is to know about the Soviet side. The primary source of this information are the Afghan soldiers in Kabul who are straining under Soviet domination.

9273

CSO: 4620/23

IDEOLOGICAL POSITIONS PUBLICIZED

Islamic Department Condemns Reagan

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 28 Mar 83 p 1

[Text]

KABUL. March 28, (Bakhtar)— Following is the text of a protest note by Islamic Affairs Department of the DRA and the High Council of Ulama and Clergymen of the DRA to condemn the interferences of the criminal United States in the internal affairs of our beloved and Muslim country Afghanistan:

In the name of God, Most Merciful and Benign:

We ulama and clergymen of the Islamic Affairs Department and the High Council of Ulama and Clergymen of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the beginning of the year 1362 H.S. were informed through the mass media once again that Roald Reagan the warmongering and war flaring president of the cruel and oppressive state of the United States of America has expressed his solidarity with the appa-

rently Muslim counter-revolutionary bands of Afghanistan and has announced the continuation of his aids to them. We consider it our religious, conscientious and national duty to raise our voice of protest against it and to inform our Muslim people about this devilish conspiracy.

Muslim and faithful compatriots, Ronald Reagan, this real enemy of the holy religion of Islam and all the world's awakened Muslims once again has exposed his devilish and evil face and is interfering openly and contrary to all norms of human rights and the Charter of the United Nations Organisation in the internal affairs of our free, independent and Islamic country and with this shameless interference does not leave our Muslim, awakened and toiling people to live in peace, tranquillity, brotherhood and equ-

ality. In this spring, while our people are waiting for the day of peace and have risen for such a life and are supporting their revolutionary state with all their power, and while they have accepted with patriotic, Islamic and national fervour and ardour the message of esteemed Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA on the occasion of the new year, and while having taken it as a good omen, and are proceeding with wide and firm strides to welcome the fifth anniversary of the April Revolution, the devilish voice of Ronald Reagan has raised to support the people of Afghanistan.

Our Muslim people are aware and realise well that this is not a support but is adding fuel to the fire of a fratricidal and Muslim killing war and a encroachment on peace and

tranquillity. The aid of this accursed devil is not a help but is the destruction of mosques, takyakh-
anas, schools, bridges, roads, factories and fields.

Our people know it well that the US criminal imperialism is killing and mass murdering Muslim toilers in Palestine, Jerusalem, Lebanon and other parts of the world.

Our people every day fully feel the material, moral and human harms of the so-called aids and for this reason they hate such aids.

Thus, the General Department of Islamic Affairs and the High Council of Religious Leaders of the DRA strongly condemn the policy of criminal Reagan on the undeclared war against our country which results in the murder of a number of our innocent countrymen.

en.

Pious Moslems of Afghanistan with the strength of your faith and relying in great God, wherever you are, you should continue to demonstrate your Islamic and national valor in rebuffing the devilish pot of imperialism and in supporting your revolutionary state and esteemed Babrak Karmal, President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA. You must not allow the accursed devil, the atheists and non-Moslem hirelings to disrupt your peaceful life.

We, the religious leaders and spirituals of the Department of Islamic Affairs of the DRA, pray to Almighty God to bless you and grant you the final success and to bring ignominy and disgrace to your enemies.

May God bless you.

'TIME' Accused of Hypocrisy

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 28 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] KABUL, March 28 (Bakhtar)— The political analyst of Bakhtar Information Agency writes:

The press conference of the French doctor philipp Augoyard and his trial in Kabul some time ago, in the beginning surprised the west and later caused a flood of venous propaganda against Afghanistan in the western capitals.

The US Time Magaz-

ine, a permanent contributor and follower of sinister and slanderous accusations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan could not neglect these facts. In its March 14th issue, the magazine has published a devilish article about Philipp Augoyard in the 72 lines of which numerous lies are accommodated.

The real aim of the article is quite obvious. It wa-

nts to introduce the said French doctor not only as innocent to the world people but also as a hero. The hypocrisy of the Time magazine in its approach to general world issues can be seen clearly in this respect.

The question arises that by secretly entering the territory of the DRA and neglecting the passport regulations has this French criminal and adventurist not opposed the

laws of this country? Has he not joined hands with the enemies of the popular state, who want to topple the revolutionary regime? Another question: what position will the Time adopt towards the Mexicans who cross the US borders in search of work in the American paradise?

We ourselves give the answer to these questions. The Time will consider them as criminals and mention that they have neglected the laws of emmigration to the United States. But they have committed this "crime" only to find a job and have no plans against the ruling regime of the United States. Anyhow the Mexicans in view of the American magazine are criminal elements and the likes of Augoyard were and will always be heroes.

The authors of Time are not horrified from the fact that the French physician and spy, while performing his criminal acts was captured together with his proteges from the counter-revolutionary band, the so-called Harakat-i-Enqelabi Afghanistan. This is the band which use utmost cruelty and wildness against the numerous and unlucky victims who fell their prey, in the name of defence of Islam. They prefer to conceal the fact that Augoyard was in fact in the service of those manslayers

who behead cold bloodedly those ordinary Afghans who merely did not want to be accomplices of the robbers of this band.

The Time writes that the press conference of Mr Augoyard was allegedly held in the interest of the Soviet propaganda with the view to expose with witnesses the aids rendered by the USA to counter revolutionary bands of Afghanistan.

In this connection, the Bakhtar Information Agency points out that neither the Soviet propaganda organisations nor the propaganda organisations of Afghanistan had the need to hold a press conference with the participation of the French subversive physician. Because the owners of the White House themselves proved in the gathering of the counter-revolutionaries of Afghanistan on 20th of March that they have helped with all their power with the counter-revolutionary bands and that consider their duty as their own duty. As they say, "what is clear need not be stated." According to information the organisations such as Aid Medical International, "medicine sent frontier" and "Medicine du monde" who had sent Mr. Augoyard to Afghanistan to serve the criminal bands have in mind the interests of international imperialism, not the interests of the people of Afghanistan. Augoyard fell in this dirty quagmire especially

due to the fact that he was in the service of imperialism.

Time claims with stubbornness that there was no reporter from the west at the press conference addressed by Augoyard. This is completely untrue. Erich Dierschmit, a producer of documentary film and the owners of videosat cinematographic concern in Paris was present.

When Erich asked the French physician whether he was threatened by the Afghan authorities before addressing the press conference, the physician answered that he was not subjected to any kind of intimidation or threat.

Likewise, Time writes that the representative of French consulate in Kabul was not permitted to meet Augoyard whereas such a meeting did take place.

BIA correspondent reports that representatives of French consulate in Kabul were eagerly looking for traces of beating in the body of French physician but they were unable to detect any. However, we are sure that Time magazine will certainly fabricate beating traces in his body in the near future and would publish in its future issues. This we expect because the magazine specializes in telling lies and fabricating slanders against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Ulema Group Solidarity With USSR

KABUL, March 29 (Bakhtar) — The 50-man group of ulema and religious figures of the DRA who had gone to the Uzbekistan SSR for a friendly visit on March 16, returned home yesterday.

[Text]

The BIA carried an interview with a number of group's members, and we present hereunder the excerpts from the interview.

Mawlawi Mohammad Habib, a preacher of a congregational mosque of the Jalalabad city, said: "During our tour to the Uzbekistan SSR, we visited Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Organj cities."

"Not only in Tashkent, he added "but in all the cities we performed prayer with the Muslims and were convinced that the sacred religion of Islam and the religious rituals are respected and observed greatly in the Uzbekistan."

We also paid visit to some other religious places such as Imam Bukhara and Mir Arab 'madrasas'. Among other places we visited, was a very big and unprecedented mosque in Organj city.

This 'madrasa' has a library which possesses thousands of religious books. We observed such books in the library which we have neither seen in Afghanistan, nor in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Mawlawi Omadin, assistant incharge of the Islamic affairs unit of the Khost division, said: "Before our tour to the great Soviet Union, we had not imagined that the sacred religion of Islam and religious traditions would be

observed in such a respectful manner in the Soviet Union.

He added: "Now with full explicit and confidence we not only reject the anti-Islamic propaganda of imperialism headed by the US imperialism and other reaction about the Soviet Union, but we say with full honesty that the facilities which are provided for the performance of religious rituals of the Muslims in Uzbekistan SSR even do not exist in the Saudi Arabia."

The two clergy told Bakhtar correspondent that they also visited the 'Kolkhozs' and fertile lands and had talks with the representatives of the working people there.

Mawlawi Mohammad Habib and Omadin, on behalf of other ulema and religious figures of Afghanistan, appreciated the warm welcome and hospitality of the state and religious authorities of the Soviet Uzbekistan and said that group brought unforgettable impression with them.

IRANIAN OPPOSITION LEADERS COMMENT ON SADDAM'S PEACE MESSAGE

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 278, 21 Mar 83 pp 26-27

[Text] How did Iranian opposition leaders react to President Saddam Husayn's message to the Iranian people?

The National Resistance Movement led by Dr Shapur Bakhtiar welcomed the Iraqi president's peace proposal. Moreover, it had previously announced "its deep appreciation for the decision to withdraw Iraqi troops to the international borders." Bakhtiar says: "We always believed that the stupid idea of exporting the 'revolution' was the cause of the war and destruction. We do not find Khomeyni's resistance to peace proposals strange at all, for he describes the war as being a mercy and a blessing for his Islamic republic! Also, he is the only beneficiary of the war. However, we are certain the war has to end."

He says: "The National Resistance Movement believes President Husayn's message reflects the true intentions of the Iraqi government regarding the need to end the war, which has caused only ruin and destruction and increased the number of dead and wounded in both countries. As the message said, continuing the war will create new wounds as well as deepen old ones."

'Ali Amini's Opinion

The Front to Save Iran headed by former Iranian Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Amini stated: "The Iraqi withdrawal must be followed by action on the part of Iran to end the war. Iraqi-Iranian relations must now be based on mutual respect and noninterference. There are treaties that can determine the future of these relations."

It must be said that opposition circles in general have expressed their satisfaction with the logic and reasonableness that distinguished President Saddam Husayn's message and they have apparently agreed to welcome it. These circles expressed this welcome in telephone conversations with AL-DUSTUR.

Admiral Madani, former Iranian minister of defense after the fall of the Shah, confirmed what he said before regarding his anxiety and dissatisfaction with the continuation of the war. He also repeated: "I tell the

world and especially the Islamic and Arab states to do their duty to the Muslim peoples in Iran and Iraq. This war must end with each side acknowledging the legitimate rights of the other."

They Saved Thousands

Commenting on what the Iraqi president said concerning the negative effects of a continuation of the war, Admiral Madani says: "Every day that the war goes on, our people and our sons in the armed forces lose much blood... as do our brothers the Iraqis. If both sides were to make peace today, it would save hundreds, in fact thousands of lives."

Hasan Nazih, former president of the Union of Iranian Lawyers and president of the Iranian National Oil Company after the fall of the Shah, believes:

"Should the Iraqi forces withdraw voluntarily from Iranian territories, a continuation of the war would mean that the reactionary fascist regime in Tehran will remain in power."

He says: "The world now knows which party does not want peace. There is not the slightest doubt that Khomeyni and his group want the war because it enables them to retain control in Iran, promote civil strife, and spread destruction in our Islamic world."

President Saddam Husayn asserted that Iraq does not want to change the boundaries of the region geographically. Therefore, the Iranian opposition military men were no less enthusiastic than the other Iranian opposition circles. General Mo'inzadeh, commander of the Iranian Liberation Army "Ara" believes "the war is not our war. No one gains from this war except Khomeyni, imperialism, and Zionism. This explains why the Iranian Army is not prepared to attack the lands of the neighboring states to satisfy Khomeyni's ambitions."

He said: "I believe the Iraqi leaders' addressing the Iranian Army and people is more useful than addressing Khomeyni, for the people and the army want peace and a decent life. As for Khomeyni, all he wants is killing and destruction."

The Opposition Press

It is worth noting that the Iranian opposition press published portions of the two messages that President Saddam Husayn sent to the Iranian people. The newspaper POST-E IRAN, published in London, wrote: "The future of our relations with Iraq must be based on the Algerian agreement, mutual respect, and non interference in internal affairs. But there is considerable evidence that Khomeyni and his group are interfering in internal Iraqi affairs and in the affairs of [other] states in the region. This means peace is impossible as long as Khomeyni and his gang are running Iran."

The two messages of President Saddam Husayn were printed in PEYAM, published in Britain, and IRAN NEWS, IRAN TRIBUNE, and IRAN TIMES, published in the United States.

Mojahedin-e Khalq

An official spokesman of the organization said in reply to a question asked by AL-DUSTUR: "The organization believes the war cannot end because of the obstinacy of the Khomeyni group, for Khomeyni insists on continuing the war, despite the fact that there were suitable opportunities to achieve peace in the third month of 1981. Khomeyni is desirous of exporting his "Islamic republic" to Iraq. He was unsuccessful in this while Iran has suffered up to now numerous casualties--300,000 dead and wounded--in addition to half a million who have become handicapped, almost three million homeless refugees, and more than \$200 million in property damages.

The Iranian Army no longer wants to continue the war because our army is not one of swindlers. It does not want to occupy the lands of others. There are mutinies in several Iranian Army barracks against the Khomeyni regime. The peace-loving nations must halt aid to the Khomeyni regime.

We must remember that the Mojahedin-e Khalq previously announced that they were in agreement with Iraq on the necessity for ending the war and establishing brotherly relations between the two countries. Since they now welcome positive statements by the Iraqi leadership, they have no illusions that the war can end unless the Khomeyni regime falls.

Helpless

Thus, the Iranians are opposed to the war, but they are helpless, if only for the time being. This is the reality that even Khomeyni himself does not doubt, a fact that AL-DUSTUR learned from questioning various Iranian opposition groups in its attempt to determine their reactions to the two messages that President Saddam Husayn sent to the Iranian people.

There is much evidence to be found in the statements of the leaders of the Iranian regime where they implore the Iranian Armed Forces to continue the war, for example, the report of the Islamic Republic Party submitted to the members, which says:

"There is no need to mention the dangers that may arise from the imposition of peace in the present circumstances. Each of us must have with him a summary of the reasons for not welcoming that... There is a basic condition for any form of peace treaty, i.e., noninterference by any country in the internal affairs of another... We cannot accept this condition."

Does anyone need other evidence of Khomeyni's ambitions which have been frustrated by the Iraqi forces from the beginning of hostilities?

Against this background President Saddam Husayn's message to the Iranian people was complete harmony with the mood prevailing among the Iranians in general. Indeed, the president's statement that "We are once again turning to you with feelings of patriotic and human responsibility after coming to the firm conviction that your rulers feel no responsibility whatever to you or to humanity or to the peoples of the region" by itself confirms that the Tehran regime is no longer in a position where it can afford to talk about relations between the states.

This was precisely why President Saddam Husayn turned to the Iranians directly, convinced that God had blinded their rulers. "One day Satan whispered in their hearts so that they imagined they could realize their unrealistic dreams of occupying Iraq and attaching Iraq to their empire which they thought they can achieve... So they were wandering about in error. We say: Gentlemen, we are returning to talk directly with you with a sense of responsibility within this framework and with a strong feeling that your rulers have exploited the ignorance of some of you regarding the facts as they did earlier, and they exploited the widespread illiteracy among the Iranian masses. Nevertheless, we still have confidence in the wisdom of the Iranian people even though we have lost confidence in the wisdom of their rulers. We are certain, therefore, that while some rulers may be able to deceive some of their people for a little while, they will be unable to hide the truth every time and for all time."

"You will recall that your rulers or those whom you put to the test sought to compete with one another in hostile expansionist statements against Iraq the day they ordered their helpers to cross the international borders east of Basra. Even Khomeyni was made drunk with overweeningness so that he called on the people of Basra to welcome the occupation army and aggression. However, the people of Basra were just as we know them, [they behaved] like all ancient peoples when attacked. They and the brave Iraqi Army heroes fought the army of the Satanic Khomeyni. When it became clear to Khomeyni and his helpers that they could not breach the defenses of Basra and that this fact was widely known to many Iranians and the Iranian Army, he could no longer compel them to engage in aggression from this direction after all five waves of largescale attacks were crushed."

"We say that after it became obvious he could not conceal these facts and the enormous casualties after his repeated attacks he then presented you, us, and world public opinion with a new idea, namely, they want to bring down the Iraqi regime but not occupy the land. Because Basra is far from the seat of the regime and headquarters of the leaders, they decided this time to attack Baghdad along a straight line directly from Mandali to Baghdad. But, as you know, they were unable in this offensive to get as far as the city of Mandali, which is no more than 10 km from the borders, and also after they discovered they could not achieve their hostile goals east of Mandali."

The fact is the positive reaction of various Iranian opposition groups to what President Saddam Husayn said arose as much from their feeling that he spoke words of wisdom as from his ability to refute all the points made by the Khomeynites in justifying the war, including what they called the "war of attrition."

5214

CSO: 4604/20

COMMANDER DISCUSSES DUTIES UNDERTAKEN BY GENDARMERIE

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 6 Apr 83 p 14

[Interview with Commander of the Gendarmerie Colonel Kuchekzadeh by correspondents of the mass media; date and place not specified]

[Text] ETTELA'AT Military Service: In an interview with the mass media, Colonel Kuchekzadeh, the commander of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, explained the activities of the gendarmerie personnel in the past year in the area of the war against the Ba'thist infidels and the counterrevolutionaries, fighting smuggling, border control and the new military service proposal for the exemption of those born during the period 21 March 1958-20 March 1959 and new exemptions.

First, concerning the activities of the gendarmerie, the commander of the gendarmerie said: In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful. The programs and activities of the past year and also what measures we shall undertake for the period 21 March 1983-20 March 1984 are summarized in 10 items.

One item concerns the ideological issues. With the efforts of the political-ideological brothers of the gendarmerie, we sent a number of teams to the gendarmerie stations throughout the country. Of course, no matter how hard we work in this area, it still will not be enough. My request to the political-ideological brothers at the beginning of the new year was the issue I just mentioned.

The second issue concerns the measures regarding the personnel issues, including the cadre personnel and the conscripted personnel.

In the cadre personnel, we made good ideological changes and simultaneously, we established the training centers. Efforts were made so that the forces absorbed are mostly from among the faithful.

An example that I can mention is the college of officers. From more than 10,000 applicants, we selected about 750-800 from among the best faithful and committed brothers. The same was true in the training centers.

The third issue concerns the extent of the operations carried out by the gendarmerie during the course of this one year. The gendarmerie forces during this period were engaged both with the infidel Ba'thist forces in the south and west of the country and with the domestic counterrevolutionaries in Kurdistan and western Azarbaijan.

These forces carried out their duties shoulder to shoulder with the other Islamic combatants and if we look at the Kurdistan and western Azarbaijan regions, we can see the self-sacrifice of these beloved people along with other Islamic combatants.

The Fight Against Smuggling

In turn, the issue of the fight against smuggling and the security of our borders were not ignored. To this end, we strengthened the anti-smuggling groups. Certain equipped teams were assigned to every area and we made an effort to strengthen the areas of manpower, logistics, vehicles, communication and engineering. In order to achieve better results, we combined these groups with the committee brothers and the anti-smuggling headquarters. These combined forces are active in the east of the country, in Khorasan and Sistan, and we have been able to achieve tremendous results from this cooperation.

The security of the borders of our country is one of the objectives which we worked on very hard. We were able to establish border battalions in the eastern part of the country last year. In this connection, nine border battalions were established. We are trying to, God willing, make these battalions self-sufficient this year in terms of both manpower and weapons, including armored personnel carriers and air carriers for the battalions.

Pilot Training

He added: The issue of training was one of those at the top of our list of activities. We increased the number of training centers for officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, which includes the creation of two training centers for soldiers in Sanandaj and Jaldian, near Naqdeh. Another attempt was to establish two pilot training centers for the gendarmerie, which is one of our plans. Late last year, the aviation officials of the gendarmerie prepared the plan and, God willing, from 9 April, we will begin operations to provide our pilot force for the self-sufficiency of the border battalions of the gendarmerie.

Also, 760 classes of the literacy movement were established in the training centers with more than 2,000 people receiving literacy certificates.

The next issue is that of intelligence and security. Extensive efforts have been made to enable the brothers to revitalize the intelligence issue, which is, in effect, our eyes and ears. Classes were established and cooperation has been successful with the second bureau of the joint headquarters of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran to train an effective force and to establish security in practice.

Another issue is that of logistics with regard to the gendarmerie. Because of the efforts of our brothers in the logistics office, they were able to repair and prepare more than 1,900 vehicles and send them to the gendarmerie regions.

Simultaneous with providing for the needs of our units in the war regions and others, comprehensive efforts were made and a number of vehicles were provided for and put at the disposal of our brothers, with the help of other institutions.

The next issue concerns engineering, which, considering the expansive nature of the gendarmerie, had caused this organization to suffer greatly, because, even now, we have guard stations with no water which are so remote that to get there requires three days of travel on the road by primitive means, such as animals.

Considering these engineering problems, the gendarmerie made extensive efforts and with the help of the brothers of the Governor General's Office and the authorities of the Ministry of Housing, we were able to establish a number of new guard stations in various areas of the country and provide for the needs of the personnel in regards to electricity and equipment.

Highway Police

Concerning the activities of the highway police of the gendarmerie during the past year, especially during the New Year holidays, the commander of the gendarmerie said: The highway police made noteworthy efforts in establishing new guard stations along the main roads and providing winter and New Year plans.

This was the first time since the victory of the revolution that the highway police were able to make effective use of the air patrol during the New Year holidays.

Concerning the inspection office of the gendarmerie, I also must add that inspection teams were sent to various areas of the gendarmerie. In inspecting the regions, we tried to attend to the requests of our guard stations. However, there is the issue

of the expansion of the gendarmerie; no matter how much effort is made in this area, it is still insignificant.

Defense of the Borders

The commander of the gendarmerie said concerning the defense of the borders: We believe that borders are like the arteries of a country. If they are ignored, irreparable damage may occur, especially in our Islamic country, with our Islamic revolution. We see that the eastern and western oppressors want to inflict various blows on the Islamic revolution. One of the ways is to threaten the security of our borders, whether it is through illegal crossing, the entry and exit of currency or the entry of narcotics. In response to this problem, we have established the border patrols and we are determined to strengthen them such that we will have a combative force there rather than a security force.

New Conscription Proposal

Concerning conscription, I must say that considering the needs that we have had during the war, both the imposed war and the war against the counterrevolutionaries, the conscription system has been effective. We have a very good program underway which, God willing, will be implemented this year.

Concerning the exemption of eligible draftees who were born during the period 21 March 1958-20 March 1959, he said: A group of those born during this period were first exempted and then, later, some of them were called to service. There were objections to this action. For this reason, when the government of the Islamic Republic extends exemptions, they must be respected and, therefore, this kind of recall is not right. For this reason, those who came did not stay more than a year and all the gendarmerie regions were notified to exempt those born during the period 21 March 1958-20 March 1959.

Concerning the details of the new proposal for general conscription, Colonel Kuchekzadeh said: The proposal was discussed and approved in the committee for the articles of defense of the Majlis. The committee has sent it to the Majlis for discussion and we are awaiting its ratification by the Majlis.

This new proposal has some very positive points. Those who are called to service will be able to receive certain benefits. For instance, they will be helped to be admitted to the universities; they will be helped to be employed in government offices; and they will be able to receive business permits as well as other benefits. The complete details will be announced after ratification by the Majlis.

The new proposal was presented to the Majlis late last year and I think it will be on the agenda of the Majlis within the next month or two.

In the new proposal, we will not have guardianship exemptions. We will provide financial aid to families whose chief means of support has gone to service and we will not have exemptions such as we had in the past.

Also, we have a new plan, according to which high school graduates will be sent to the soldier training centers, receive the rank of sergeant and serve in the non-commissioned cadre.

In this connection, these soldiers will be given written and oral examinations and must be tested in ideological matters. The bylaws have been prepared and will be implemented this year.

Border Cooperation with Pakistan

Concerning the results of the visit to Pakistan and the border cooperation between the two countries regarding border control, the commander of the gendarmerie said: Thus far, effective cooperation has taken place. Of course, meetings were held this year between the border guards of Iran and Pakistan in regards to the control of borders and the prevention of smuggling. But, we proposed that there be a general meeting between the two countries with the participation of the governors general every three months. Of course, this has not yet taken place.

Of course, we have made strides in regards to the control of the borders. We were able to prevent the activities of smugglers as much as possible. Last year, we were able to confiscate nine tons of narcotics, which is a relatively impressive figure.

In any case, we have new programs to fight smuggling and secure our Islamic country. In the Ministry of Interior, a committee and headquarters have been established. This headquarters is presently active and we hope to obtain good results in the new year.

10,000
CSO: 4640/174

POLITICAL-IDEOLOGICAL DIRECTOR OF NAVY INTERVIEWED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 4 Apr 83 p 15

[Interview with Director of the Political-Ideological Office of the Navy Hojjat ol-Eslam Elahi by ETTELA'AT; date and place not specified]

[Text] Military Service: Hojjat ol-Eslam Elahi, director of the political-ideological office of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in an interview with the correspondent of the military service of ETTELA'AT, expressed his views about the disbanding of the offices of research and evaluation of the naval bases, the fundamental changes in the selection of personnel, the training and propaganda affairs of the political-ideological office, studying the files of the naval personnel, the spiritual and military dimensions of the joint Noh base, the presence of the clerics on the naval bases and the future of the imposed war.

Studying the Personnel Situation

ETTELA'AT Correspondent: What steps have been taken to study the situation of the naval personnel?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Elahi: Recently, after the imam's decree, with the cooperation of the political-ideological office of the joint headquarters of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, we sent some teams to all the naval bases, who studied the issues and cases closely, contacted the personnel, spoke to the commanders and put all the problems down on paper.

Fortunately, the results of the inspections of these teams was, the joint headquarters of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced, that the Navy had fewer political-ideological problems and difficulties than other forces. In other words, the problems which exist in many other places, the teams announced, were minimal in the Navy and are problems which are shared by all the forces, the political-ideological problems of the Army and all the revolutionary institutions.

Of course, after the revolution, when this organization was established, we wrote a general description of the duties and announced them. But, because of the realities that we confronted in practice, it was felt that more work should be done on the duties and issues of the organization. Later, we appointed a team which now regularly studies the problems of the organizations, clarifies the duties and prepares a clear implementary method for all the political-ideological units in the Navy.

Of course, in addition to the other problems of the organization, the shortage of personnel might be one of our problems. Because this is a revolutionary organization and its general mission is to ideologize the Army, it naturally requires forces who understand the ideology, believe in the ideology and are committed and loyal to the ideology in practice.

Taking into consideration the culture of the Army and the previous conditions of the Army, naturally, we have some shortcomings in this regard. Considering that they do not have permission to hire and we must use the existing personnel of the previous Army, naturally, we are somewhat short of personnel who meet the qualifications.

In any case, other than the organizational and personnel problems, we have no major problems, such as violations and deviations from main duties, at the present time. The Navy enjoys a relatively high political-ideological popularity among the forces, because the personnel feel that the clerics who have come here have come to serve them, especially our clerics on the bases such as Bushehr, Bandar 'Abbas, Abadan and regions with harsh climates, who live on a minimal salary. The salary of a cleric who lives on such an out-of-the-way base under very difficult living conditions is far less than that of a non-commissioned officer, let alone an officer.

When the personnel feel that these clerics with a minimum of privileges and benefits endure extreme self-sacrifice and hardship, and noting that the personnel feel that these clerics have not come to cause trouble and difficulties but to create understanding and attract the personnel, naturally, these clerics are liked.

Therefore, we have no problems in this regard and the minor problems that exist consist of what I have explained.

Training and Propaganda

ETTELA'AT Correspondent: What activities are the political-ideological management of the Navy involved in at the present time?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Elahi: Since the formation of the political-ideological offices, we have constantly followed the method and policy that the military personnel, who are in fact the children of this country, who have some education, who have passed certain courses and who are experts must be mobilized. The expert and committed individuals should be utilized to serve the Islamic revolution.

Naturally, in order to mobilize the expertise, innovations and creativity, there must be understanding. We have tried to give priority to the issue of understanding.

Of course, along with this general policy, we have had various detailed activities in the areas of training, publications, propaganda and research. In summary, the political-ideological task relies on the two issues of training and propaganda. In other words, we emphasize training and propaganda issues. Other issues are secondary to these two main issues.

The Results of the Joint Seminar

ETTELA'AT Correspondent: What were the results of the joint seminar of the commanders of the naval bases and the directors of the political-ideological offices?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Elahi: This seminar was held following the historical decree of the imam of the nation. The main objectives of this seminar were, first, to study this decree in relation to the Navy; second, to study the issues related to the joint Nuh base, a base recently created by the Guards Corps and the Navy; and, third, to study the general issues of the Navy.

Fortunately, with the committee which was formed, the very good lectures which were delivered and the personalities who came to talk, the seminar was very fruitful.

The members of this seminar were able to meet with the imam of the nation, the president and the speaker of the Majlis and to benefit from the very decisive directives of their leaders.

Among the clear results achieved after the seminar was that we will follow our previous policy of "attracting" and avoiding "rejecting" and that we will base our policy on understanding and cooperation between all the forces. There are no differences in the goals among the commanders, the political-ideological authorities and other institutions. Therefore, there should be no differences in the positions and courses of action. There is no reason for differences because we all follow one goal and say the same thing.

This cooperation has become more clear and even stronger. The policy of joining the Navy and the Guards Corps has been approved and it has been determined that it should be strengthened and expanded.

In the area of political-ideological activities, we reached clearer results, especially in the area of research and evaluation, which was directly related to the imam's decree. And in the areas of selection, admittance, declaration of competence and training, we took practical measures after the seminar.

For instance, until the regulations have been determined completely, in conformity with the historical message of the imam, we have declared that all our research and evaluation offices on the bases be closed and we have made fundamental changes in the area of selection.

It was determined that the areas of promotions of personnel abroad, moving personnel and a series of issues which were previously bureaucratic be set aside and dealt with more rapidly and leniently. We also achieved other results in this seminar.

The Future of the War

ETTELA'AT Correspondent: How do you analyze the war and what do you see as its future?

Hojjat ol-Islam Elahi: Since the Islamic revolution of Iran was a miracle and a great victory, opposition to this revolution started and resistance and provocation took place, because the imperialists felt that if this new lesson should expand and the nations of the world should become familiar with this new model and system, the political situation and the political geography of the world would change completely. Hence, they determined that they should destroy the source of this revolution and movement.

Many conspiracies against the Islamic revolution began inside the country, in the region and on a global level.

The reason for the provocations which began in the region and in the world stem from the belief that the Iranian revolution, essentially any revolution, could not be contained within its physical borders and, naturally, it would expand and spread, because revolution means a change in the status quo. This change occurred both inside and outside the country. Therefore, just as a number of people opposed it domestically and could not tolerate the change in the status quo, many in the region and in the world as well could not tolerate this change.

Therefore, within the country, the monarchists, large capitalists, hypocrites and other terrorist organizations began certain movements against the revolution. From outside, too, conspiracies began in various forms including the imposed war of Iraq on Iran.

Presently, I do not have the time to speak about the nature of this war and its instigators and provocators or to make a comparison between the regimes of Iran and Iraq and what our army did and what the Iraqi army did or to make conclusions about the whole war from the beginning until now. But, in summary, I will say that they started the war. The Americans and other powers had told Saddam to come and destroy Iran and had assured him that it would be over in three days.

The reasoning that they had given Saddam was that Iran had no army, Iran had no economy and Iran had no political stability; hence, if he would go forward, he would certainly be victorious. But, they had not told him that Iran was a great, united, revolutionary nation which would defend its revolution under any circumstances. Based on the calculations of the dictator of Iraq and the world-devouring calculators, this war began. But, we were able to stop the Iraqi attack in its first phase and in the second phase, we began attacking their positions. The zenith of these victorious operations was in "Beyt ol-Maqaddam." Later, we continued our holy war, because the Islamic Republic came to the conclusion that the Iranian nation must rid itself once and for all of this evil war.

The only way to rid ourselves of this problem is holy war, that is, to punish the aggressor, to turn away the enemy's artillery, to have the Iraqis return home, to have the Iranian refugees return to their own cities and to establish a lasting and true peace between Iran and Iraq, which is only possible when there is no belligerency.

What guarantee is there that this war would end with negotiations and that they would not attack us again?

Hence, while we seek an end to the war and want peace, we believe that since the Iraq regime does not respect any sort of treaty or contract, there is no guarantee that they would be faithful to a treaty which might be signed, as they did not heed the Algerian treaty, but broke it unilaterally.

So, there is no way but to continue the holy war for God to rid ourselves of this problem forever, just as many countries have done which had such problems and fought to rid themselves forever of them.

Of course, chemical bombs were used against those nations, bombs which not only destroyed human beings and animals, but even plants, farms and forests. Yet, for many years, they stood up, resisted and ultimately became victorious. Based on the historical facts of the struggles of other nations and because our resources and situation are superior to those of all other nations, we are certain that under correct leadership, with these self-sacrificing combatants, with this cooperation of God-worshipping forces, with our faith, historical, cultural, social and economic capital and our young generation, we will be the ultimate victors in this war. The future of the war lies in victory for the great Iranian nation, God willing.

10,000

CSO: 4640/175

SUCSESSES IN FOREIGN RELATIONS REPORTED

Saudi Loan Finalization

Kathmandu THE MOTHERLAND in English 25 Mar 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] Vice Chairman of the Rastriya Panchayat Gopal Chandra Singh Rajbansi has said Nepal has very close and cordial relations with the People's Republic of China.

The RP Vice-Chairman was delivering welcome speech at the dinner hosted by him in honour of Ngapoi Ngawang Jigme, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of National People's Congress of PRC here last evening.

Rajbansi said that the Nepal-China relations presented an example of how two neighbourly but big and small countries with different political systems could live in peace and amity by duly honouring the sovereignty and independence of each other.

He added that it was the conviction of Nepal that any independent and sovereign country had every right to choose the kind of political and economic system it liked.

He went on to say that Nepal under the able and dynamic leadership of His Majesty the King had been able to chart out a definite political course for it and the political stability had come to stay.

Ngawang Jigme said the Chinese people cherish warm and friendly sentiments toward their close neighbour Nepal.

Noting that the Nepali are a hard working courageous and freedom loving people Ngawang said, "we are pleased to note that in recent years, the Nepali government and people under the leadership of His Majesty King Birendra, have persisted in the policy of independence and self-reliance overcome its various adverse conditions as a developing inland country and achieved gratifying success in their unremitting efforts to develop the national economy and build up their country.

In international affairs, he continued, Nepal has persistently followed a foreign policy of independence and non-alignment, opposed aggression and expansion and power politics and worked to safeguard the principles of non-aligned movement.

It is of our consistent view that assistance is always mutual. Nepal was one of the first countries to recognize New China. It made unremitting efforts to restore China's legitimate seat in UN and has all along opposed "two Chinas" scheme he added.--RSS

Growing Ties With China

Kathmandu THE MOTHERLAND in English 30 Mar 83 pp 1, 4

[Text] A three member Nepali team left here yesterday to finalize the talks concerning interest free loan assistance of 38 million US dollars to Nepal from the Saudi Development Fund.

With the loan, works on construction of Kohalpur-Mahakali sector of the Mahendra Highway including the bridges will be started it is stated.

Nepal was informed about the assistance by the Saudi Fund in 1977. Assurance of the assistance was also received from the Saudi technical team visiting here last June.

Construction design of the Kohalpur-Mahakali sector of the highway estimated to cost 76 million US dollars was completed with assistance of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Meanwhile, talks are underway with the World Bank about the balance required for the construction.

Trucks as well as buses ply up to 15 kilometers of the 20 kilometer Kohalpur-Mahakali stretch.

The Nepali team is led by Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Surya Bahadur Bista and Chief Engineer of the Department of Road Shiva Bahadur Pradhanang and Under Secretary of the Law and Justice Ministry Surya Upadhyaya are the members.

CSO: 4600/508

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WITH PRC MEETS

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 2. The first plenary session of Pak-China Joint Economic Committee was held here today with both sides expressing unflinching resolve to continue building economic relations with ever-increasing diversity.

Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in his opening remarks, observed that Pakistan was determined to make this institutional arrangement for economic cooperation, a successful undertaking with a view to intensifying the endeavours for expansion of mutually beneficial relations, which was also the rationale behind the establishment of the Joint Economic Committee.

He said Pakistan, with Chinese assistance, had laid a sound foundation for heavy industry and was poised for achieving self-reliance in this field. He said Pakistan was greatly indebted to its Chinese friends for the generous help rendered in different fields of economic activity and highly valued the friendship with China which had stood all vicissitudes of time.

Reciprocating, the Chinese First Vice-Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr. Zheng Tuobin, said that China was also proud of its relations with Pakistan. He emphasised that the trade relations between the two countries were of vital importance and China was fully satisfied with the progress in economic relations. He hoped that the Joint Economic Committee would provide an appropriate forum for both expanding and diversifying the economic cooperation.

Both sides agreed to the establishment of three sub-committees on trade, industry and joint ventures and science and technology, charged to take stock of the existing relations in these fields and also to identify new avenues of cooperation.

Proposals and recommendations of these sub-committees will come up for discussion in the final plenary session on April 4 and would be reflected in the protocols likely to be signed on the conclusion of the session.—APP.

CSO: 4600/514

PAKISTAN, CHINA SIGN PROTOCOLS

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] ISLAMABAD, April 4--The first session of the Pak-China Joint Economic Committee concluded here today with the signing of three protocols on trade, economic cooperation and collaboration in the field of science and technology

They were signed by the Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Chinese First Vice-Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Mr Zheng Tuo Bin.

Under the barter agreement for 1983-84 Pakistan will export to China; cotton; cotton yarn, woollen yarn; man-made acetate fibre: textile goods including hosiery, towels and towelling goods; finished leather and leather goods in lieu of importing from China tools and workshops, sanitary wares: sheet and plate glass; earthen China or porcelain table ware and stationery; machinery and millwork; equipment for hospitals; laboratories and agriculture, construction and road building machinery and bitumen

The protocol for economic co-operation provides for Pak-China collaboration in technically upgrading of the heavy mechanical complex, heavy forge and foundry and heavy rebuild factory and the expeditious completion of Daud Khel cement factory and sports complex.

In addition to this the two sides have also agreed to join hands in oil and gas exploration; coal mining and bricketting and earth proof construction and forecasting of earthquake techniques.

Under the same agreement China has also agreed to study the possibility of supplying machinery and equipments for joint projects on suitable terms on project to project basis.

The two sides have also agreed to expand cooperation in various fields of science and technology for the mutual benefit of the contracting parties.

It was also agreed to hold the next session of committee at Beijing in 1984.

The Federal Finance Minister Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan speaking on the occasion observed that the ground covered by these protocols had enhanced the prospects of long term economic cooperation between Pakistan and China and the

protocols amply reflected the sincerity of both sides to meet the challenges jointly.

The Chinese First Vice-Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade; H. E. Mr Zheng Tuo Bin said that he was greatly impressed by the spirit exhibited by Pakistani side.

He said that he was convinced that the documents signed here would be fully realised in due course of time. He remarked that China would continue to co-operate with Pakistan guided by the spirit of mutual understanding and mutual help.

CSO: 4600/520

PAKISTAN, DPRK AGREE TO SET UP PROJECT

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 1 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

Pakistan and Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) have agreed to set up a joint venture in vegetable production which would be later exported to Gulf states.

The DPRK will extend technical assistance and expertise in boosting vegetable production in Pakistan and development of modern farming in this country followed by bulk exports to Gulf states.

This was disclosed in Karachi yesterday by Kim Yong Gol, Chairman of Korean state enterprise Sumheung, and leader of the four-member delegation currently on a 20-day visit to Pakistan at the invitation of Tariq Saeed, Vice President, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and President, Pakistan-Korea Friendship Association.

Kim Yong Gol said in an interview following the visit of President Zia-ul-Haq to his country last year and his talks with DPRK President Kim Sung cooperation in a number of fields between Pak-

istan and DPRK is increasing manifold.

He assured that his country would provide all possible assistance to Pakistan in the field of agriculture particularly vegetables for export to Gulf states. He said a refrigerated vessel of 1,000 tonnes capacity will be acquired to export vegetables. The Korean enterprise has undertaken joint ventures in Africa, Middle East and South Asian states.

Tariq Saeed said he was grateful to the DPRK for sending the delegation to Pakistan. He said the joint venture in vegetables with DPRK would help earn foreign exchange for the country. He said as a result of President Zia-ul-Haq's visit to DPRK the base of economic relations between the two countries had accelerated.

The DPRK delegation yesterday visited Thatta to see vegetable farms. They will also meet officials of the Agriculture Development Bank of Pakistan, Investment Advisory Centre of Pakistan and other officials besides visiting Multan, Faisalabad, Lahore, Gujranwala and Hyderabad.—

CSO: 4600/519

DEVELOPING CLOSER ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH GULF STRONGLY URGED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Mar 83 p 4

[Text] ADDRESSING the leading industrialists and businessmen of the country some time back at a FPCC & I moot the Federal Commerce Secretary exhorted them to forge closer trade and economic relations with the developing countries, specially in the Arab and the Gulf regions "in order to counter the pressures being exerted by the developed nations." He advised them to "institutionalise" arrangements with the Arab Union of Chamber of Commerce--of which the Gulf and the Arab States are members--by setting up a joint committee which would give a great fillip to trade and economic cooperation with the Arab countries in the Middle East. The Commerce Secretary pointed out that the Arab countries were keen to import more and more from Pakistan but he sounded also a note of warning that the Arabs were very much quality conscious and "the Pakistani industrialists and exporters must ensure the export of quality goods."

Over the years, Pakistan's trade with the Arab, and specially the Gulf, countries has registered a phenomenal rise but taking into account the tremendous market for Pakistani goods there, the present exports from here constitute but a fraction of the total scope. Pakistan's capacity to take advantage of the existing opportunities is limited by two basic facts: one, the country does not produce as yet enough of the sophisticated goods to meet all the demands of the Arab countries and, second the quality of Pakistani goods is not such as to displace those imported by Arab countries, from the developed countries of the West. Clearly, it is a situation which calls for the Government to step in to regulate matters because left to themselves the traders and industrialists are not likely to bother much about the problem except in so far as it concerns their own personal gains and profits. But leaving things to the traders, may actually mean leaving the Arab markets to competitors from the West and other non-Muslim nations in Asia trying to effect economic infiltration in the Arab markets to the detriment of Pakistan.

The Commerce Secretary's warning about ensuring the quality of exports to the Arab countries is a timely one, as the supply of inferior quality of goods has often been a sore point with importers of Pakistani goods. There have been examples in the past when our exporters have supplied goods not conforming to the samples shown to the importers.

The Government is now taking keen interest in streamlining the things on the economic and trade fronts but much more needs to be done in this connection. It would be helpful if the authorities create a permanent and powerful machinery to supervise the quality of goods exported to the Arab countries. It is unfortunate that our traders and even important groups of manufacturers, have still not developed that professional or business pride in their products. Profit, at all costs, remains the sole prime mover of the business community in Pakistan.

Pakistan possesses all the technical know-how to produce manufactured goods of the highest quality, that is the goods it is producing at the moment, which can easily compete with those from the developed countries. But their keenness for higher profits impels the manufacturers to degrade the quality of their goods. It may be profitable for the individual traders but hurts the interests of the country. But manufactured goods are not the only commodity to be sold to the Arab countries. There is a vast scope for the export of fruits, poultry, vegetables etc. In an interview on the TV, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said some time ago, while discussing Baluchistan's farming capacity, that Saudi Arabia alone was prepared to import fruits worth a 1000 million dollars if Pakistan could supply them, while at present the country was exporting these items only to the tune of 25 million dollars. Apart from this, the Gulf countries are prepared to buy poultry worth 1000 million dollars. Although it pertains to different authorities but it may be worthwhile pointing out here that people have complained about the difficulty in getting land for poultry farming, because of the impediments created by the sanctioning authorities. Obviously, the Government will have to create a high-powered machinery to handle this and related problems, concerning production of manufactured goods and farm products and their exports, with vigilance and firmness. For left to the traders or petty officials a golden opportunity, which may not last for long, may be lost to the country.

CSO: 4600/512

SOME MISCONCEPTIONS IN INDIA-PAKISTAN RELATIONS ANALYZED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 27 Mar 83 p 4

[Article by Hafeez R. Khan]

[Excerpt] KARACHI was recently the scene of a thumping P.R. effort by Shri Krishna D. Sharma, Ambassador of India. In a single day, among other engagements, he had a pre-luncheon tete-a-tete with a select group of people in the board room of a prominent weekly, gave a talk at the Pakistan Institute of International Affairs on India's foreign policy and met Karachi journalists and others at a reception given in his honour by an Indian Consulates's diplomat.

India has in the recent weeks been very much in the news throughout the world. However, its management of the NAM summit could not get the kind of P.R. mileage it could have got had there been no Assam, i.e. the massacre of Bengali (Muslims) there. And it was the coverage, extravagant in the eyes of the Indian Ambassador, in the Press in Pakistan, particularly the Urdu Press, that he seemed to be primarily concerned with. That kind of Pakistan response to the horrifying events in Assam, was according to him not conducive to the new climate that is being attempted to be brought about. The message which he wanted to give: let us delink the future from the past. Let us look at our misfortunes objectively and understandingly. Let us not rejoice at the failures of each other, at the calamities--man-made included--that befall us.

Reporting the Truth

The Indian Ambassador would surely be conscious of the limits of both friendship and diplomacy. No two countries could perhaps be closer to each other than Israel and the United States. Yet the human suffering is such that the American Press and electronic media could not help carrying the massacres in the Lebanon, day in and day out. A correspondent in the UK has recently earned a much-coveted award of his country in journalism, for his stories covering the carnage. Israel and the UK are on the best of terms. does it mean such "liberties" can only be taken amongst friends, without jeopardizing their relations?

That would bring us to the exact status of the present Indo-Pak relations. Where does it stand? Are the two countries simply co-existing, following a

policy of mutual non-interference? When nations follow such a policy it often implies mere forbearance for the sake of preventing outright war. Now co-existence may come into being after a detente and be a forerunner of an entente cordiale of which entente is a shored-up form. Whereas entente is a positive situation, detente suggests a more negative one. Detente is a lessening in, or a suspension of restrained relations especially after a crisis such as war has been narrowly averted. Entente is an informal compact rather than a treaty with reference to the conducting of foreign affairs or cooperation in the event of military aggression from without. Pact, as in Liaquat-Nehru Pact, is a term which is now being frequently substituted for treaty. The Liaquat-Nehru Pact was entered into by Pakistan with India long before "Pactitis" and "Pactomania" entered journalistic and scholarly parlance. Treaty is the general term for a formal signed contract that is drawn up after diplomatic negotiations in accordance with the rules of international law.

All the above nomenclatures denote types of agreements or political adjustments. Where do the present Indo-Pakistan relations fit in? Above all, the Simla Agreement. This, one presumes, would have been sorted out by the two Governments. It would not seem to be in the minds of most outside people, though, particularly, when Pakistan does not feel constrained to mention Kashmir in international gatherings, and India objects to it under the Simla Agreement.

And then what is "quite diplomacy" many would wonder in Pakistan? The Indians are constantly talking about it, these days. Does it mean a diplomacy that does not make any sound? Ambassador Sharma was quite vigorous about "quite diplomacy". Does "quiet" here imply freedom from activity or only commotion? Luckily, there has been no call from across the border for "Still Diplomacy", if it is not coined yet, they might as well have done so, for the benefit of the people of the two countries as well as of Bangladesh, Ceylon, Nepal and Bhutan. Also because "still" though suggests an unruffled or tranquil state, the word after implies that the calm is an interlude between periods of noise or agitation. There is a sense of permanence about "quiet" but none about "still".

When "quiet diplomacy" is mentioned the context is Afghanistan i.e. the withdrawal of the Russian troops or the "foreign" troops as the communiques would have it, in order not to touch the Russian raw nerves. The Indians claim they have succeeded in convincing Pakistan of the merits of their approach. The whole world would wish "quiet diplomacy" succeeds in sending the "foreign" troops back to where they come from. But would they do so quietly? And soon, before the destabilization is entrenched in the region.

Kashmir was mentioned by President Zia-ul-Haq at the NAM summit in New Delhi but he did not wheel out any heavy artillery. He brought in the issue very quietly indeed. In a conference like NAM, Kashmir had to be there and not only to take account of the domestic realities. In fact, not to mention it could very well have undesirable if not disastrous consequences. Even when quite governments carry out quiet diplomacy, the people cannot be given the impression that the problem does not exist any more. And it goes for both the people of India as well as the people of Pakistan. In a classic Catch-22

topic that Kashmir is, that kind of impression would discredit both the Governments totally. Kashmir is not a hoary standby, it is the real thing. And it has been allowed to grow for so long that it would not be possible to make a bonsai of it now. And the people can neither be neglected nor isolated from it because of the fear that it would trigger their latent reflexes. The two peoples have to be helped, of course, to have a perception of commonality of interest in the solution of this problem so that the subcontinent could move forward

Whatever the stand one may like to take on Afghanistan, it could hardly be denied that the event of the last few years in Afghanistan would not have taken place the way they did had India and Pakistan not been confronting each other. Let us make no bones about it. The situation in Afghanistan demands that the people of India and Pakistan stare at it so hard, so intensely and with such vigour and determination that the interventionists are embarrassed and withdraw. There was a certain spontaneity almost a gestalt in the gut reaction of the people of India and Pakistan to the intervention in Afghanistan. Both the people appeared to be going through the same experience. Much could have been built on that. That opportunity is not totally lost yet. "Quiet diplomacy" would not necessarily preclude the possibilities that can be marshalled.

CSO: 4600/512

RETIRED GENERAL CRITICIZES PRESENT REGIME

Karachi AMN in Urdu 19 Mar 83 pp 1, 6

[Article: "Bhutto Trusted General Zia; Corps Commanders Used to Meet [Bhutto] Regularly; Military Takeover Was Totally Unexpected"]

[Excerpts] Rawalpindi, 18 Mar (AMN correspondent)--Tikka Khan, retired chief of armed forces and secretary general of the Pakistan People's Party, said here that the former prime minister and PPP chairman, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, had not expected, even on the last day of his rule, that the army would take over. The main reason for this was that Mr Bhutto had total faith in the loyalty of the army. Second, Mr Bhutto had appointed Gen Ziaul Haq as chief of staff over seven other senior generals. Retired general Tikka Khan, in an exclusive interview at his residence with the correspondent of AMN, said with reference to the remarks of a former federal minister, Maulana Kausar Niazi, that according to Maulana, in May 1977 the former prime minister had met Maulana Mufti Mehmood and Sardar Abdul Qayum, leaders of the National Alliance, secretly at Sahala. "Maulana has implied in an interview that the former chairman had arranged this meeting because he feared a takeover by the armed forces, but according to the facts this is not true," Gen Tikka Khan said. "This meeting did not take place because of the fear of an army takeover; it was about the National Alliance movement and about general elections."

"Even on 3 July 1977 Chairman Bhutto had not expected the army to take control. On that day, at 4 in the afternoon, General Zia had participated in the cabinet meeting along with his corps commanders. At the cabinet meeting, the generals pledged loyalty to the government. It appears that Chairman Bhutto had complete faith in General Zia. Even before this meeting, General Zia and several other army officers had been meeting with Mr Bhutto. These meetings took place every 2 or 3 days over tea and were also attended by the director general of military intelligence. They discussed the law and order situation in these meetings and no minister took part in them. After taking vows of loyalty on 3 July, to stage a coup during the night of 3-4 July is the worst kind of treachery. The reason for the ignorance of this treachery on the part of the Bhutto government, of which I was a part, was the trust placed in the army. Bhutto's government had two intelligence agencies--the Intelligence Bureau and a military intelligence body, ISI [Inter-Services Intelligence]. Since the armed forces were involved, it was the duty of the latter to inform the government of any conspiracy

against it. Either ISI itself was involved in this conspiracy, or it did not know about it. Only history will reveal the truth about that. Had we known about the conspiracy, we would have nipped it in the bud. But our government fell prey to having too much faith in these generals."

Commenting on the present government, Tikka Khan said that even its sixth sense is working now. "This government wants to stay in power for 2 or 3 more years. It has clung to power on various pretexts for the last 5 or 6 years and has been making various promises, only to break them. The present rulers blame the politicians for all problems during their trips abroad. When visiting the east they consider the Pakistanis living there to be more patriotic than those living in Pakistan and Pakistanis living in the United States seem to have more feeling for Pakistan according to them. They went to the United States to buy F-16 bombers. They also brought some American religious scholars along. These scholars dream about miracles, about Allah appointing present rulers to these positions, and proclaim that this government has the full support of the people. It is said that once the politicians begin to hate the present ruler's face, he will leave office. But how can he know that people hate him? Everyone, including the poor, unions, students, workers, lawyers, politicians, and the intellectuals are angry at the present regime. They want an end to martial law and the establishment of democratic rule giving power to people elected in general elections. The army should relinquish power and go back to their barracks and defend the country. The present government, however, just cannot see the hatred prevalent against it. This government claims to be a civilized government but under its rule thousands of political workers are beaten and thousands more are rotting in jails. Women are tyrannized in the Shahi fort. Things like this did not happen even during the British rule. If the offending father is not caught, his son is sent to jail and vice versa. What kind of civilized government is this that has kept a young girl under detention for several years? An old and sick politician named Sheikh Rasheed has not been allowed to go abroad for treatment. The minister of the interior claims that there is not a single political prisoner in the country. If he takes off his glasses of self-interest, he might be able to see those prisoners."

Retired general Tikka Khan demanded freedom for political prisoners, including Benazir Bhutto, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Maulana Fazal-ur Rehman, retired Air Marshall Asghar Khan, Rao Rasheed, famous journalist Irshad Rao and the students, lawyers, women and laborers who were arrested with them. He further demanded the repeal of all punishment given under the martial law. He demanded that the government end martial law, lift censorship from newspapers, and establish democracy by holding elections according to the 1973 constitution.

Commenting on Indo-Pakistani relations, Gen Tikka Khan said that we should have peaceful and friendly relations with our neighbors, especially India. He said we should improve our relationship as an independent, autonomous country and we should not bow to them. Instead, we should negotiate with them like a strong and stable government should. Only popular support can result in a stable and strong government. The present government lacks popular support and the recent Indo-Pakistani negotiations show that our government has bowed to India, he said.

NATION PROPOSES SOUTH-SOUTH COLLABORATION BODY

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Excerpt]

ISLAMABAD, April 4: Pakistan has submitted three concrete proposals for greater economic cooperation amongst the developing countries, to the conference on South-South cooperation, which is currently in progress in Beijing, official sources disclosed today.

The key proposal submitted by Pakistan, relates to the setting up of the Third World version of the Brandt Commission, to prepare a charter for South-South collaboration which could give a firm sense of direction to all efforts to be made by the South in the next few decades.

It proposed that South should organise its own Third World multinationals in the fields of commodity trade, banking, insurance, shipping, media information and other international services currently dominated by the North.

Another proposal submitted by Pakistan is the setting up of a third world science endowment fund to promote the rapid spread of science and technology in developing countries.

These proposals have been seen by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Dr. Mahbubul Haq who had been invited to attend the conference. While sending the proposals, Dr. Mahbubul Haq conveyed to the spon-

sors that his current pre-occupation with the preparation of the Sixth Five-Year-Plan has prevented him to participate in the conference. However, he offered his best wishes for the success of the conference.

The four-day South-South conference under the theme 'strategies of cooperation, development and negotiations', is being attended by about 30 delegates from different countries of the Third World in addition to 15 Chinese scholars. It has been sponsored by the Third World Foundation for Social and Economic Studies (London) and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing).

Dr. Mahbubul Haq recalled that Pakistan had suggested to the recent NAM summit that the ablest minds from within the South should be called upon to prepare a concrete blueprint for South-South cooperation. He said he personally presented this proposal to the economic committee of the NAM summit where it received broad endorsement and was included in the final declaration. The proposal was also discussed with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, Gamani Corea who was present at the summit and promised help with finance and secretariat facilities Dr. Haq said.

CSO: 4600/520

NDP VOWS TO STRUGGLE FOR 1973 CONSTITUTION

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 4

[Text]

QUETTA, April 2: The Provincial Working Committee of the defunct National Democratic Party, which met here today under the chairmanship of its President Haji Ghulam Sarwar Khan Yasinai, resolved to continue struggle and offer every sacrifice, within or without MRD, for complete restoration of the 1973 constitution.

According to a Press release issued here today by Dr Enayatullah Khan, General Secretary of the provincial NDP, the meeting observed that although the 1973 constitution was not in accordance with the wishes of the people of smaller provinces the NDP manifesto, its restoration was the most important step at the moment in the present struggle for democracy.

The meeting also demanded holding of general elections and transfer of power to elected representatives of people.

In another resolution, the meeting expressed grave concern over what was described as indifferent attitude of provincial Government towards problems and difficulties of people. In this context, it referred to non-supply of electricity to agriculturists of Pishin area and non-completion of repairs of Said Hamid Bridge on Chaman Road.

The meeting demanded that power supply be restored immediately in order to save orchards and crops in area and disputes over electricity bills should be settled through mutual negotiations between WAPDA authorities and agriculturists.

The meeting further resolved to demand restoration of reserved seats for Baluchistan in engineering colleges and management of public institutes of other provinces.

CSO: 4600/514

NDP LEADER SAYS PUNJAB IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY

Rawalpindi HURMAT in Urdu 10 Mar 83 pp 16, 17

[Interview with Saleh Khan Mandokhail, executive secretary of the defunct National Democratic Party; by Yusaf Lashari; date not specified]

[Excerpts] Saleh Khan Mandokhail is among the respected leaders of Baluchistan. He is also acquainted with power. He has been active in politics since 1956. He was the minister of industry and rural development in the former government of West Pakistan and has been a member of its advisory council. In 1962 he contested for election to the West Pakistan Assembly. In 1972 he joined the defunct National Awami Party. He was imprisoned twice during his political tenure. Presently, he is the executive secretary of the NDP. Recently, when he came to Karachi to participate in the MRD meeting, Yusaf Lashari of HURMAT's Karachi bureau interviewed him.

[Question] Khan Sahib, let us begin our talks with the developments that have taken place in Baluchistan over the past few years. In your opinion, are the people of Baluchistan now satisfied and are the grievances they had a few years earlier about Baluchistan being ignored now ended?

[Answer] First of all, I would like to say that Baluchistan is a part of the country. We cannot think of Baluchistan as a separate part. After the Afghan revolution the Pakistani people did not want to say or do anything that would be dangerous for the country. The administration is under an illusion if it concludes from this that it alone has been responsible for the existing peace and harmony.

As far as Baluchistan is concerned, we have said from the start that the problem is how to eliminate poverty from the province. The administration has succeeded in this regard to some extent, and it has made the province feel that the development programs are being given priority. Prior to this, no action whatsoever was taken to develop the province. Now, however, the work is under way. Supplying Quetta with natural gas is indeed a great feat of this administration. I would like to point out here that Baluchistan is faced with two problems. The first is that the local administrators do not seek the people's advice in formulating policy. We should be taken into their confidence when policies are being determined because Baluchistan has been a province for only a short time, whereas the Frontier Province, Punjab and Sind have had provincial independence since 1935.

[Question] What is the present political climate of Baluchistan?

[Answer] The political climate in Baluchistan is the same as it is throughout the country.

[Question] Presently, certain sectors are putting considerable emphasis on the fact that it is in the interest of the country to end martial law as soon as possible and restore democracy. What is your opinion?

[Answer] This is a very straightforward thing. The country's defense can only be carried out through democracy. The policy of the people of the Imperial Defense College clearly is that power should be in the hands of the politicians, since they alone can protect the country. The restoration of democracy in the country greatly helps to bring various provinces closer and fosters their mutual understanding.

Since the Afghan revolution and the Red revolution in Afghanistan, Baluchistan and the Frontier Province have become extremely sensitive areas. The largest number of Afghan refugees is in these provinces. That is why the situation of these two provinces is different from the other two provinces. The administration would have received effective proposals had there been national institutions. After the 1970 elections and the formation of Bangladesh, the NAP [National Awami Party] asked that it be recognized but the NAP faced opposition. Afterwards, however, Bangladesh was recognized. The NAP had said that Pakistan would be better off to have improved relations with all neighboring countries, including India. The NAP was opposed in this, too, but now relations between India and Pakistan are being improved, and we were the first ones to point to this. Even now we say that this country should not be made the center of confrontation for the superpowers. If America harbors enmity toward the Soviet Union, Poland is the best place for their confrontation.

[Question] Your party is a member of the MRD, whose aim is to restore democracy in the country. In this context, could you please tell us what the role of Baluchistan has been in this "campaign" for democracy, since some circles are saying that Baluchistan is comparatively less active in this campaign?

[Answer] Right from the start, Baluchistan has been active in the campaign to restore democracy. It is essential to remember that Baluchistan has a tribal kind of system. So, if you look at the role of Baluchistan in the campaign for democracy, you would clearly see that Baluchistan was in the very first contingent in the campaign against Ayub. But the vital question now is whether Punjab, too, has any interest in democracy or not.

History bears witness to the fact that whenever the Frontier Province and Baluchistan raised the banner of democracy, they were called traitors. Therefore, we wish to proceed with caution now. This time, total responsibility rests with Punjab alone and if it is interested in democracy, it should lead the way. We will follow it as younger brothers. At present, there are no signs of any political storm in Baluchistan. But if the administration does not become flexible in its policy toward the Afghanistan problem, the Frontier Province and Baluchistan will be devastated by a terrible storm.

PAKISTAN

GHAFFAR KHAN DISCUSSES AFGHANISTAN, KASHMIR, OTHER ISSUES

Rawalpindi HURMAT in Urdu 19 Mar 83 pp 13, 15

[Interview with Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan by Malik Mohammad Tariq: "I Was Not Allowed To Meet With President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq; I Can Solve Kashmir's Problem Within a Few Days!"; date not specified]

[Excerpts] During his recent tour of the southern districts of the Frontier Province Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Frontier Province veteran politician, founder of the Khudai Khidmatgar movement and father of the National Democratic Party's (NDP) distinguished leader, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, visited Dera Ismail Khan. On this occasion, our representative from Dera Ismail Khan, Malik Mohammad Tariq, had a discussion with Bacha Khan that will certainly interest readers.

[Question] Bacha Khan, you are this country's most veteran politician. Could you comment on the present situation in the country?

[Answer] Since the existence of Pakistan, there have never been fair elections in this country. I would call all the elections held here selections, not elections, and this is why Pakistan has never enjoyed stability over the past 35 years. This has influenced Pakistan's politics so badly that the situation has remained the same up to the present era.

As far as Palistan's current political situation is concerned, I would say that there is nothing called politics in this country. There are restrictions on speeches and writings. Most political leaders are imprisoned. Meeting with an imprisoned political leader is like trying to meet with God. Nevertheless, it is true that some parties, including Jamaat-e Islami, enjoy full freedom, and I call this kind of politics hypocrisy, not politics.

[Question] While you were sick in the Khyber Teaching Hospital, you expressed a desire to meet with the governor of the Frontier Province, Lt Gen Fazal Haq, concerning the solution of the Afghan issue. Could you please tell me the reasons for not having this meeting?

[Answer] My personal opinion is that the present administration is not sincere with regard to the Afghan issue; otherwise, it is not a problem without a solution. Every problem has a solution, and this problem can never be resolved unless Pakistan, Afghanistan and the Afghan refugee leaders have mutual

discussions. In this connection, therefore, I wanted to meet with Pakistan's president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, and I expressed this desire nearly 3 months ago to the governor of the Frontier Province. I waited, but I never received a reply.

Then, on 3 February, the deputy commissioner of Peshawar came to me and talked about a meeting with the president, but I flatly refused to meet with Zia Sahib.

[Question] This means that you yourself did not want to meet with the president?

[Answer] Actually, the circumstances were somewhat different at that time and a lot could have been achieved by my meeting with him then. It would not be incorrect to say that the circumstances at that time were somewhat under my control. Therefore, it is no use meeting him now.

[Question] You have said many times that the war in Afghanistan is a war between two superpowers. Would you like to clarify this?

[Answer] First of all, I would like to dispell the misunderstanding that it is a war between Islam and nonbelievers. Instead, it is a war between two superpowers, two ideologies and two countries in the background of which the Pathans are suffering. If we do not make ourselves aware of these dangers and protect ourselves, our fate will be worse than that of Beirut, which is still sharp in our minds. This will directly affect Pakistan, and then it will be impossible for us to protect ourselves. I go to every single Pathan to make him aware of these dangers and tell him not to use military force to solve a problem that can be resolved through mutual discussion.

Similarly, when Pakistan was faced with the Kashmir issue, I said in the assembly that I could resolve the Kashmir issue within a few days. Quaid-e Azam was alive then and he had a discussion with me on this issue. It was settled that I would resolve this problem with India. However, that very night some selfish people went to Quaid-e Azam and talked to him against me. They achieved their goal, that is, they told Quaid-e Azam that if Bacha Khan did resolve the Kashmir issue, he would get all the credit. Those selfish people said that they could regain Kashmir in one night by the force of arms. I kept quiet. Today, we have that same Kashmir problem, still unresolved, and we all know the loss we suffered for its sake.

[Question] Why did you want to meet with Maulana Fazal-ur Rahman in jail?

[Answer] I know very well that the administration has imprisoned Maulana without any crime. He was sick recently and I wanted to meet with him to inquire about his health, but due to the administration's attitude, I was unable to meet with him.

[Question] You must certainly have met with Babrak Karmal in Afghanistan. What is his reaction to the Afghan crisis?

[Answer] Whenever I have met with Babrak Karmal, I have had the impression that his heartiest desire is to resolve the Afghan crisis through talks. With regard

to the Soviet Army, he says that it did not come by itself; rather, we invited it to come to Afghanistan, since the situation at that time had deteriorated so much that there was no other alternative. We were compelled to invite the Soviet Army. Babrak Karmal feels that the Soviet Army will leave as soon as conditions in Afghanistan are favorable.

[Question] What is your opinion about the Soviet Union and America?

[Answer] The idea supported by both the Soviet Union and America is that the Islamic community should be annihilated. Just look at it. The Soviet Union brought its army into Afghanistan. To compete with it, America (i.e., Israel, which brings destruction on America's instructions, and I consider Israel as part of America) sent its army into Lebanon. You all know about the devastation of the Muslims in Beirut by the Americans. The Soviet Union has not been able to create as much destruction in Afghanistan in 3 years as America did within a few days in Beirut. Then there is the silence of the Islamic community. What did they do besides mere resolutions? Then take the United Nations. What action did it take? (The United Nations sides with America.) From all this, therefore, it can easily be concluded what each one of them did and did not do for the other. It leads us to the conclusion that both countries work for their own interests; they have no regard for others.

9779

CSO: 4656/132

MINISTER SAYS PREMATURE TO TALK OF POLITICAL SET UP

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

ATTOCK, April 4: Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting has said that President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq would consult various representative people before announcing any new political structure for the country.

The Federal Minister was talking to newsmen at a lunch party hosted in his honour by the Chairman, District Council Attock Maj. (retd.) Haji Mohammad Akbar Khan here today.

The Federal Minister said it was premature to talk about the proposed political structure at the present stage.

Regarding the implementation of the Wage Board Award in different newspapers he said the implementation is the responsibility of the Government. He said recently a meeting was held to review the implementation of the award in different newspapers. He stressed that it is the foremost duty of the journalists unions to protect the rights of the newspaper employees adding that efforts should be made to stop the conversion of newspapers into "begar

camps"

The Federal Information Minister answering a newsmen's question said that the Federal Cabinet would soon discuss the restoration of advertisements to various newspapers.

He said the Government was fully aware of the two major problems confronting the regional journalists: the non-implementation of Wage Board Award and non-issuance of apogical journalists; the non-imisations.

When asked whether the question of lifting ban from the political parties will be discussed in the cabinet meeting to be held on April 6 and 7 the Information Minister replied that the agenda cannot be disclosed before the meeting adding that the decisions of the meeting would be announced.

Regarding a demand made by the newsmen to restore the previous railways' concession for the journalists and their wives the Information Minister assured that he would talk with the Federal Railway Minister in this connection.

CSO: 4600/520

NDP WORKERS SUPPORT MAZARI'S STAND

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 12

[Text]

Workers of the defunct National Democratic Party (NDP) representing the city's outlining colonies, yesterday endorsed their party chief, Sardar Sherbaz Mazari's stand not to have a dialogue with the Government, except on the modalities of general elections.

At a reception held for the Party's Information Secretary, Mr Abid Zuberi, they headed for sectarian peace and abhorred the tendentious attempt to divide the ranks of Muslim fraternity.

The workers, who belonged to the Pathan Colony, Banaras Colony, Bawani Chawli, Pirabad and Qasba Colony, said in another resolution that a political solution to the Afghanistan crisis should be sought on the principle of non-interference in any country's internal affairs.

Other demands, inter alia, pertained to the release of political leaders, lawyers, journalists and

workers, check on the "terrorist trends" at the educational institutions, rescinding of the University Ordinance, withdrawal of sentences passed on the students by the military courts, and taking over from the provincial textbook boards the authority of publishing the textbooks.

Earlier, Mr Abid Zuberi advised the party workers to unite under one slogan "Restore democracy" to avoid any misunderstanding among the MRD's rank and file.

He said the country was today confronted with an economic crisis. Unemployment was growing because no new factories were being set up, and Pakistan had thus become a "manpower smuggling" country, he added.

Mr Zuberi said there was a clear distinction between a Super-Power's interference in Vietnam and that of another Super-Power in Afghanistan.

CSO: 4600/513

RUSSIAN MOVES SEEN AS EFFORTS TO ASSIMILATE AFGHANISTAN

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 25 Mar 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Russia Ready To Assimilate Afghanistan"]

[Text] In their special messages sent on the occasion of Afghanistan's traditional New Year on 21 March, President of the United States Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz and other leading politicians expressed their support for the Afghans' struggle for freedom and stressed the need for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghanistan and the restoration of its national freedom, independence and neutrality. The government leaders of several other Western countries expressed similar feelings of sympathy; and the British Government announced additional financial aid for Afghan refugees.

The expressions of support for Afghanistan's freedom and sympathy for its innocent people by the United States and other Western countries are worthwhile and encouraging because they show that these countries have not only not accepted Russian's invasion of Afghanistan and, whenever the opportunity arises, will raise their voices in support of the restoration of this small country's freedom, but they also convey the impression that if Russia wants to improve its relations with Western countries, among other things it will have to completely withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. American spokesmen have denied that the United States secretly hopes that Russia will stay bogged down in Afghanistan so that it will become Russia's Vietnam, exacting continuing losses in men and money. These U.S. spokesmen say that the withdrawal of Russian forces from Afghanistan will help normalize U.S. relations with Moscow.

The demands for the withdrawal of Russian forces from Afghanistan come not only from the United States and Western countries but from the UN General Assembly, the organization of nonaligned countries, and the Islamic conference, all of whom have repeatedly and emphatically demanded Russian withdrawal. The conference of the leaders of nonaligned countries held in the early part of March in Delhi also made the same demands, but Russian rulers have taken no notice of the demands of these international bodies and seem to be intent upon tightening their imperialist and expansionist hold over Afghanistan. They are not only building additional large military bases in this occupied country but are also trying to break the back of the Afghan Mujahidin's resistance by reducing villages and communities to rubble even more ruthlessly than before. According to the latest reports, after building a bridge over the Amu River, boundary the

Russians are planning to build a railway line to Kabul. They appear to have every intention of gaining control of Afghanistan and gradually assimilating it. Fifty or 60 years ago, Russia used the same plan of action, namely, first military occupation and then annexation, to swallow up the Muslim countries of Central Asia, and it is now implementing the same plan in regard to Afghanistan. To further its objective and strengthen the hand of its puppet rulers in Kabul (Babruk Karmal and company), Russia has formed a so-called communist party, which was instructed to demonstrate in Kabul against the United States on the occasion of the New Year.

A Moment of Thought for Pakistan

The situation in Pakistan should provide food for thought for Pakistani politicians and rulers. They should rise above their present penchant for confrontation and pay heed to the long-range effects on Pakistan's freedom and integrity of Russia's gradual assimilation and annexation of Afghanistan. It is also necessary to keep in mind the future plans and intentions of Russia's friend, India, and their implications.

God forbid, if the men in office and the politicians continue their confrontation, giving rise to restlessness and feelings of helplessness in national affairs, and if expressions of alienation continue and even increase, neither the rulers nor the politicians will then derive any advantage or positive results. Keeping in mind the long-range plans of Russia and India, our rulers and politicians should adopt a course of action aimed at ensuring the national unity needed to protect and preserve the freedom, integrity and Islamic identity of the country and the people. Just as intelligent and responsible parents try to ensure a better life and hopeful future for their children, the present rulers and politicians should not let time slip away but should strive to achieve the objective of leaving a legacy of better conditions for future generations.

9863

CSO: 4656/137

MAHBUBUL HAQ DISCUSSES 5TH FIVE-YEAR PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 pp 1, 4

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 2: The record of implementation of the Fifth Five-Year Plan indicates considerable success with respect to broad strategy of the Plan towards consolidation and reasonably high growth despite a major shortfall in investment level which in turn did not allow correction of priorities sought by the Plan towards the end of the Plan period.

This was stated by Dr Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, at a news conference here today, while presenting a preliminary evaluation of the current Five-Year Plan scheduled to end in June next.

He said the Plan came very close to fully realising its bold physical production and growth targets, with an annual average growth rate of 6.2 per cent during the Plan period, which he claimed, represented 90 per cent achievement of the Plan targets.

He said agriculture, which achieved a growth target of 4.6 per cent during the period against a target of six per cent, had converted large food deficits into surpluses. Agriculture sector as a whole had emerged as a net exporter, he added.

In the industrial sector, a growth rate of 9.2 per cent was achieved against the Plan target of 10 per cent which, he said, gave rise to sizable surpluses in sugar and nitrogenous fertilizers.

Major shortfall

He said major shortfall in the manufacturing sector was on account of the delay in the completion schedule of Karachi Steel Mills. In his opinion the output of

the full cycle of the steel mills production would not be available in the final year of the Plan.

Conceding that the major shortfall in the Plan was recorded in terms of investment, Dr Mahbubul Haq said the overall investment ratio, estimated at 16.5 per cent in 1977-78, was expected to improve to 19.2 per cent by the end of the Plan period. But the latest estimates suggested that the ratio was most likely to have declined to 14 per cent during the Plan period.

He attributed this shortfall in investments to escalating international oil prices during the first four years of the Plan period, the large inflow of Afghan refugees, the severe bout of recession in the last two years of the Plan period, protectionist measures adopted by industrialised countries to restrict growth of exports from developing countries and a significant drop in net aid transfers against the Plan assumption of 600 million dollars annual net inflow of aid funds (after repayment of principal and interests) in 1977-78 prices.

Domestic savings

Dr Mahbubul Haq said domestic savings effort was of the order of 10 per cent of which eight per cent was recognised as domestic savings and the balance had gone to outside world.

Explaining the matter, he said rough estimates of the loss of income on account of the terms of trade was around 450 million dollars in constant prices during the period 1977-78 to 1980-81. This loss, he said, represented two per cent of the GDP in 1980-81 and implied that savings made in Pakistan were to this extent paid to the rest of the

world as net loss.

He said that in view of the adverse developments in terms of trade, low volume of world trade and energy prices, the inflation rate remained around 9 to 10 per cent per annum during the first four years of the Plan against 16 per cent in the preceding five years. In the final year of the Plan, the inflation rate appeared to have declined to roughly around six per cent per annum, he added.

Public sector

Dr Mahbulul Haq said the Plan had provided for public sector development programme of Rs 148 billion, but although public industrial investment remained heavy due to ongoing commitments, share of the total investment in this sector was projected to fall to 50 per cent. Thus, the public sector outlay declined from 11 per cent of the GNP in 1977-78 to 8.9 per cent in 1981-82.

He said that on the present showing, overall private sector investment would be around Rs 74 billion in nominal terms and Rs 54 billion in 1977-78 prices, showing a shortfall of around 13 per cent. He, however, said that an analysis of the direction of investment showed that the Plan objective of shifting private investment in favour of manufacturing sector as against housing and transport could not be realised.

Discussing the balance of payments position, Dr Mahbulul Haq said the current account deficit on balance of payments (at 1.3 billion during 1982-83) was actually higher by the end of the Plan period than the projected level of 995 million dollars in the Fifth Plan. However, as a proportion of foreign exchange earnings, the current account deficit had declined to 20 per cent in 1982-83 compared to 33 per cent in 1977-78 and 29 per cent anticipated for the final year of the Plan.

5th Plan evaluation

	Target	Estimated actual annual growth
GDP	7.0	6.2
Agriculture	6.0	4.6
Industry	10.0	9.2
Other sectors	6.6	6.1
GNP	7.2	6.7
Consumption	6.4	6.3
Fixed investment	10.5	3.9
i) Public	10.3	2.2
ii) Private	10.7	8.2
Exports	11.0	6.5
Imports	6.3	2.4

Savings, investment rates

	Target, 1982-83	1977-78 Prices	Estimated: Actual 1982-83 Current Prices
As per cent of GNP			
Investment	19.9	16.1	16.1
Fixed investment	19.2	14.0	14.0
National Savings	16.0	15.0	12.3
Foreign savings	3.9	1.1	3.8

Development outlays

	Plan target	(Billion Rs)	
		Estimated Nominal	Actual Real
ADP	128	127	90
Public corporations	20	30	21
Private investment	62	75	54
Total:	210	232	165

Aid inflow

He said that since the net inflow of aid declined to 200 million dollars per annum against an assumption of 600 million dollars, economy's dependence on foreign sources, per force was brought down from 33 per cent in 1974-75 to just one per cent in 1981-82.

He said that during the Plan period, per capita income recorded a very significant increase which, after adjusting to the rate of inflation, translated into Rs 740 per person at constant prices. He conceded that the per capita income reflected a 15 per cent component of remittances.

Baluchistan

He said progress was much more encouraging during the Fifth Plan period in correcting regional imbalances. The total development programme of Baluchistan, including both normal and special development programme, was placed at Rs 1443 million which compared with a programme of Rs 302 million in 1977-78.

The share of the provincial and special development programme of Baluchistan, without taking into account the Federal Government programme located in the province, was 4.4 per cent of the total public sector development programme in 1982-83 against 1.8 per cent in 1977-78; while similar efforts, though more limited in magnitude, were made for other less developed parts of the country, specially tribal area of NWFP.

Referring to the special development programme launched during the current year with a view to improving the socio-economic conditions in the rural area, he said that during the year, roughly 8000 mosque schools had been established against the normal rate of 2000 schools per annum. And some 3000 villages were electrified during the year, bringing the total number of

villages electrified during the Plan period to 8,835 as against 7,600 villages electrified in the preceding 30 years.

Inflation

Putting the matter of rate of inflation in its correct perspective, Dr Mahbubul Haq, said that the cost of living of low-paid employees had stabilised, but on other hand, some of the prices which were more significant in the family budgets of middle classes reflected the impact of world price trends and the delinking of the rupee from the dollar. A cost of living index, specifically prepared for urban middle class pattern of consumption, would probably show a higher rate of inflation, he added.

Dr Mahbubul Haq declared that during the Plan period, poverty could not be eliminated but its frontiers were pushed back from a pervasive phenomenon to identifiable areas to be attacked. However, the situation was much less satisfactory in relation to avenues of consumption.

He said that in view of the achievements of the Fifth Plan, the next Plan could be started with almost a clean slate, and added that only an amount of about Rs 88 billion would be required for the completion of ongoing projects during the Sixth Plan period.

He said we must now focus on those sectors which were neglected in the past. Attention must be paid to transformation of rural economy. Huge investments must be made in energy, transport and communications without which, he said, there would be breakdown in the future economic growth.

Dr Mahbubul Haq emphasised that political and economic importance should be attached to social sectors and development of human resources, and proper financial allocations should be given to these in order to catch up with the cumulative neglect.

MINISTER DISCUSSES RICE PRODUCTION, TARGETS

Karachi DAWN in English 4 Apr 83 p 5

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 3: Vice Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua, Minister for Food and Agriculture, said today that the Government plans to achieve the targetted 4.5 million tonnes rice production in the country within the next five years.

He was delivering his inaugural address at the fourth national three-day seminar on "Rice Research and Production" here. The seminar is being attended by more than 50 agriculture scientists from all over the country.

The Minister said at present rice was grown on an area of about 2.0 million hectares with a production of about 3.4 million tonnes.

"The country has great potential for substantially increasing rice production," he said adding that "it can be in a position to augment its exports from the current level of 1.0 million tonnes annually to 1.5 million tonnes in the next five years." He said Pakistan was the third biggest exporter of rice in the world after the USA and Thailand. The USA and Thailand had a rice export average of 2.4 and 3.0 million tonnes respectively, he added.

The Agriculture Minister maintained that rice crop besides contributing significantly towards country's foreign exchange earnings, also form an important part of

our diet. Thus, he added, the improvement in the production of this crop will have direct bearing on the welfare of the people.

He thought that the traditional agricultural technology had failed to meet the challenge of present day requirement of food. The agriculture experts should rise to the occasion to develop and disseminate better production technology, he added.

He told the participants that the Government had reorganised the agricultural research system to drive maximum results from the available resources. "It is only the high-yield technology by which we can accelerate our production," he said.

The Minister said that the major cause of low yield per hectare at farmer's field was lack of adoption of recommended rice production technology. He stressed that maximisation campaigns should be launched to convince the rice growers of the benefits of adopting the technology.

Vice Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua further said that the scientists should bring about greater and dynamic change in the entire agricultural system in the light of the problems being faced by the farmers. "It is a great task before the researchers to evolve a system

aimed at minimum expenditure and maximum production."

Post-harvest losses

He said the post-harvest processing was an important aspect of rice research which had not been given due attention in the past. "The post-harvest losses in rice are reported to be as high as 10 to 15 per cent of the total production," he said adding, "greater efforts must be devoted to minimize these losses through scientific methods and by developing and introducing appropriate post-harvest technology in the country."

He urged the participants to examine all problems of rice production in depth and formulate their recommendations for developing a more appropriate rice production strategy for the country. He assured that the Government will welcome any suggestion which could help to materialise this cherished goal.

Dr Amir Mohammad, Chairman Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (PARC), said the seminar had been organised to provide a national forum, for the scientists and researchers to exchange ideas on their achievements, identify research gaps and productivity constraints and plan strategies for further action.—APP.

BALUCHISTAN PPP CALLS FOR ELECTIONS, RELEASE OF DETAINED PERSONS

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 4

[Text]

QUETTA, April 2: The Defunct Pakistan People's Party, Baluchistan has called for the holding of general elections under the 1973 constitution, removal of ban on political activity, restoration of sovereignty of people and provincial autonomy, and release of all political detenus to overcome the serious situation the country was facing on political as well as economic plane.

In a declaration adopted at a party workers meeting here and released to press on Saturday, the party said all recognised principles of political liberties and provincial autonomy were being trampled in violation of social contract which was unanimously arrived at in Pakistan Resolution by Muslims of the Subcontinent.

Such violations, it said, usually become cause of mutual mistrust which ultimately leads to breakup of countries. The meeting observed the situation created in Pakistan, particularly on borders of Baluchistan, due to wrong external and internal policies of present government, had endangered the existence of the federation seriously.

It said that whereas other provinces did have provincial

cabinets, though unrepresentative, Baluchistan province was deprived of even such a cabinet.

The declaration said that problem of Afghan refugees should be solved through mutual understanding on the basis of Islamic principles of neighbourhood, internationalism and humanitarianism.

The meeting unanimously nominated Mr Amanullah Khan Gichki to be acting president of provincial party during the absence of Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, who is presently abroad for treatment.

Other nominations, made unanimously to fill vacant posts in provincial and district organisations, were:

Mr. Mohammad Rahim Kakar, provincial Vice-President from Quetta Division; Mr Ghulam Rasul Bhambal, provincial Vice-President from Sibi Division; Mr Hadayatullah Pirzada, President, Quetta District; Sardar Abdul Hamid Sargarh, President, Zhob District; Mr Naeem Jomezai General Secretary Zhob District; Mr Mohammad Anwar Marri; President Marri-Bugti Agency; Mr Mohammad Hashim Kakar, General Secretary, Sibi District; and Syed Ghulam Shah, Vice President, Kachhi District.

CSO: 4600/514

SHOORA BODY DISCUSSES NEW FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 2: The special committee of Majlis-i-Shoora nominated to draw up new form and system of government for the country met here today under the chairmanship of Mr. Fida Mohammad Khan.

The committee was set up on the call of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq which he made to the Majlis while inaugurating its fifth session on Feb. 5 last.

The President had asked the Majlis to examine what should be the form and system of the Government from the Islamic point of view.

Detailed deliberations were held today in connection with the term of reference of the committee. The deliberations will continue tomorrow morning.

The committee will work out a complete political system for the

country and expected to finalize its report by June 30.

Those who attended the meeting were:

Maulana Muhammad Malik Kandha, Qazi Abdul Latif, Mr. Iqbal Ahmad Khan, Mr. Sharaf Faridi, Mr. Hamza, Begum Nusrat Maqbool Elahi, Ch. Altaf Hussain, Lt. Col. (retd) W. Herbert Baluch, Mr. Shafiq Ahmad Butt, Agha Haji Syed Hussain Hazara, Begum Razia Azizuddin, Allama Syed Muhammad Razi Mujtahid, Agha Sadrudin Durrani, Alhaj Akhunzada Bahrawar Saeed, Mr. Zain Noorani, Mir Nawaz Khan Marwat, Syed Moeenuddin Shah, Maulana Moeenuddin Lakhvi, Mian Muhammad Naeem-ur-Rehman, Haji Muhammad Saifullah Khan, Mr. Muhammad Ashraf, Mr. Z.A. Suleri, Mr. Obaidur Rehman, and Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Bhurgari. —APP.

CSO: 4600/514

NATION MAY WITHDRAW FROM OIC POST CONTEST

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 5 Apr 83 p 10

[Text]

DHAKA, April 4: Pakistan is expected to withdraw from the race for the office of the Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference if Bangladesh supported Pakistan's bid to re-enter the Commonwealth; a leading Bengali language daily reported here today.

The newspaper Ittefaq also said quoting Arab diplomatic sources here that several Arab countries were trying for a unanimous candidate by asking Pakistan and Bangladesh; the only two contestants; to reach an understanding.

The office of the Secretary-General of the 42-member Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference is now occupied by Dr Habib Chatti of Tunisia but his term expires at the end of the current year.

A new Secretary-General is to be elected at the conference

of the Foreign Minister of the Islamic countries scheduled in Dhaka in December.

The newspaper said that Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq and Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator General Hussain Mohammad Ershad discussed a possible compromise formula in their exclusive meeting during the seventh Non-Aligned Summit Conference in New Delhi in March last.

The Bangladesh Foreign Ministry is studying a letter from Pakistan in which Bangladesh had been asked to propose Pakistan's renewed membership of the Commonwealth at the next meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth countries in New Delhi in November; the newspaper said.

Pakistan left the Commonwealth in 1972 in protest against its recognition of Bangladesh.

CSO: 4600/520

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY ACTION PLAN SOON

Karachi DAWN in English 4 Apr 83 p 16

[Excerpt]

ISLAMABAD, April 3: A science and technology action plan will be launched during Sixth Five-Year Plan period, which will lay particular emphasis on the development of local capability in the field of electronics.

This was disclosed here today by the Federal Finance Minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, while inaugurating the fourth three-day national conference on electronics.

The action plan, he said, would be prepared in the light of a new science policy which was now in the final stages of formulation and approval.

Describing electronics-based industries as "the sunrise industries," Mr Ishaq said electronics in the country would receive a real boost only if the private entrepreneur was attracted to its industrial potential.

He pointed out that the outlay on electronics research and development in industry had been negligible. For lack of entrepreneurial interest there was hardly any production of electronic components, and

the existing units had not progressed beyond the assembly stage, he added.

The Minister held out an assurance that the fiscal policy would not be allowed to come in the way of any purposeful effort towards import substitution and attaining of a degree of self-reliance in electronics.

He said that apart from stimulating the private sector's interest in the field of electronics and electronics-related industries, there was also an urgent need to improve the standard of teaching and training in the science of electronics in our universities and colleges.

The Minister hoped that the National Institute of Electronics would strive to bring about a national integration of the electronics capabilities, available with other institutions, through effective collaborative programmes and through vigorous exchange and dissemination of know-how. The country could not simply afford the present fragmented approach in this vital field, he cautioned.

CSO: 4600/520

UNPRINCIPLED, SELFISH WAYS OF JOURNALISTS CRITICIZED

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 14 Mar 83 p 14

[Article by Shafiq Jalandhari: "Journalism--Means of Accountability and Communication"]

[Excerpts] Certain restrictions imposed by the administration do bar journalists from performing their task more efficiently; nevertheless, journalists' self-interest and selfishness are more responsible than those restrictions for unprincipled methods and the negligence of duties.

Newspapers go no further than publishing unconfirmed news about the way the country's police, WAPDA, department of finance, telephone, railways, PIA, department of health, passport office, offices issuing identity cards, municipal institutions and other official departments and their employees waste national resources for selfish reasons and oppress the common people under various pretexts. On certain occasions, newspaper reports add to the problem by increasing the amount of bribery paid for getting a passport and identity card, a pension, an application and telephone, electricity or water connections.

It is true that due to ineffective powers of accountability and explanation, usually no disciplinary action is taken against corrupt employees despite the presentation in newspapers and magazines of proof of corruption of various official departments and their employees. It is also true, however, that in most cases the facts presented in the newspapers and magazines do become a source for taking disciplinary action against dishonest employees. The people's problems and difficulties remain unresolved despite grave and unfavorable conditions when the journalists give the impression that "everything is fine." In places where the clever employees succeed in keeping the journalists happy by taking care of the journalists' problems, the journalists continue to praise the employees' work and good intentions despite all their evil deeds. After showing off their importance and having their tasks accomplished, the journalists ignore the complaints of the people and try to satisfy them by publishing only unimportant and superficial complaints.

The responsibility of the newspapers and magazines is not only to offer political criticism. Countless social and economic evils of the society can also be their target. If the journalists do not become the victims of greed and lust, there is no reason why the blemishes of bribery, dishonesty and corruption cannot be eradicated from our beloved country.

A journalist's pen should remain an unsheathed sword as long as corruption, dishonesty and injustice openly prevail in the society. The greatest responsibility of a journalist today is to launch a campaign and holy war by disclosing solid facts against these evils. But a great obstacle in the path of fulfilling this responsibility is the journalists' frail resolution and tendency to compromise. Their self-interest appears before us in the form of the poisonous and destructive role played by journalism.

The journalist, ignoring his responsibilities, has become lost in the world of sex, crime and scandal. The transfer of an effective and all-inclusive power of journalism into selfish hands clearly means the destruction of national temperament and character and today it can be seen everywhere in the country.

9779

CSO: 4656/133

INVESTMENTS SINCE INDEPENDENCE SAID TO BE 23 BILLION

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 12

[Text]

LAHORE, March 31: Investments worth Rs 23 billion have been made in the country since Independence.

This was stated by the Regional Director of National Savings Lahore Region, in an interview with 'APP' here on Wednesday.

The Director, Mr. Mohammad Asghar, giving facts and figures about national savings said that during the eight months of current financial year the organisation has obtained gross investment to the order of 5,520 million rupees in the whole of the country. As compared to the corresponding figures of the last financial year, it was about 70 per cent above last year's 3,240 million rupees.

Giving his impression of the current drive in the Punjab, he said that people were taking full participating enthusiastically in the drive and expected much more investment will be achieved than the target fixed by the Federal Government.

Referring to the performance of his region, Savings Director said that during the first eight months of the current financial the Lahore Region had achieved a gross investment of over 910.7 million rupees as against the targeted amount of 700 million rupees.

He said there was over 470.5 million rupees net investment in Lahore, Sheikhpura, Gujranwala, Sialkot and Kasur districts where 48 National Savings Centres were working.

In the provincial capital 25 centres were in operation. —APP

\$50 MILLION IN AID FOR FARM PROJECTS EXPECTED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 1 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, March 31:
The Federal Agriculture Minister Vice-Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua said today that International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), is expected to provide 50 million dollars worth assistance to Pakistan.

He said that the World Bank is also likely to give about 50 million dollars for various projects of agricultural development in the country.

President IFAD Abdelmuhsin M. Al-Sudeary, who is currently on a 5-day visit to Pakistan today had a detailed meeting with the Federal Agricultural Minister. They also discussed the assistance of 50 million dollars for two agricultural projects.

The minister said that IFAD has so far provided 70 million dollars for four projects on highly concessional rate of one per cent interest for a period of 50 years with 10 years as a grace period.

The new IFAD assistance would help increase the agricultural production in an integrated manner with rural development infrastructure in the Punjab while the second project is to give more resources to Agricultural Development Bank for the benefit of small farmers.

Indepth discussion were held in the meeting of President IFAD and the Federal Agricultural Minister on IFAD projects with reference to improve the productivity of the small farmers.

Speaking on the occasion Janjua said, the main objective of the government policy is to improve standard of life of a common man. He said that in agricultural policy special emphasis has been laid on the schemes to help small farmers in raising his production and income.

He said that there was a convergence of interest among the policies of the Government of Pakistan and IFAD, which focuses attention on small farmers.

The President IFAD greatly appreciated the development of agriculture in Pakistan during the last five years. He said that he would send a programming mission to Pakistan to identify more project to help landless and small farmers in the context of sixth five year Plan.

Replying to a question Sudeary assured that expertise and consultancy of Pakistani experts will be fully utilize in the field of agricultural development of other countries.

The meeting was attended by Ijaz A. Naik, Dr. Amir Mohammad and Jamil A. Nishtar while IFAD President was assisted by Sartaj Aziz, Assistant President of IFAD.—APP.

CSO: 4600/519

ANNUAL AVERAGE INCREASE OF 14 PERCENT ENVISAGED IN EXPORTS

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 3 Apr 83 pp 1, 8

[Article by Babar Ayaz]

[Text]

The Exports Working Sub-Group on export promotion for the Sixth Five-Year Plan envisages average annual increase of 14 per cent during 1983-88 compared to average annual increase of 20 per cent during 1977-82.

They have projected that the exports are likely to increase from the 1982-83 benchmark of Rs. 30,300 million to Rs. 57,000 million in 1987-88, if the recommendations of the group are accepted.

"As the recession still continues in the industrialised countries," the report underlined, "and declining prices of oil are going to affect revenues and consequently consumption and expenditure of the Middle Eastern countries, the position of Pakistan's export may not improve during the opening two years of the Sixth Plan."

The Expert Group has set forth the above target on the following assumptions:

—The utilization of the installed capacity will be optimum and new investments in industry and agriculture as projected will be forthcoming. The efficiency of operations will be improved and the economics of production will keep in view the prices in international markets.

—At present Pakistan's share in the international market is very insignificant due to the lack of an efficient marketing structure. We can increase our export through the development of an efficient as well as compatible infra-structure capable of catering to the international market.

—A basic change in production

regarding the quality of the end-product is a must. Our export should be of high quality and value-added.

—Sustained supplies to the foreign market is essential. In case of shortfalls in production, immediate policy measures should be adopted, restraining the domestic consumption and maintaining the flow of exports in a sustained manner.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations have been submitted by the Working Group for incorporation in the Sixth Plan:

—Abolition of compensatory rebates in the present form. In future the Government should announce specific compensatory rebates for each year for selected items in the light of the expected behaviour of international exchange rates;

—Imports should be linked with exports as a matter of deliberate policy;

—There should be no uncertainty about government policies. These policies should be clear, unambiguous and of long-term nature.

—Changes, if any, in investment, location, fiscal and labour policies, company law and Income Tax Act should be announced before the commencement of the plan. There should be minimum changes, only in the nature of adjustments, in the policies during the currency of the plan.

—Sanctioning of investment should be one-window operation. For this purpose a permanent sanctioning board consisting of representatives of the ministries of Finance, Industries, Commerce, State Bank and financing institu-

tions should be set up. This board should not only give sanctions but also simultaneously allocate loans if asked for.

—An Investment Facilities Board should be created which should provide land, electricity, gas, water, telephone/telex connections. This should again be a one-window operation.

—Industries, requiring sanctions should be located only in industrial estates.

—Private sector should also be allowed to set up industrial estates.

—The policy of industrialisation of backward areas through tax holiday has not achieved desired results. Emphasis should now be shifted on creation of infrastructure in these areas. Industries will automatically follow.

—Industrial investment schedule should be drawn up strictly in accordance with plan priorities and scrupulously adhered to.

—All incentives and facilities should be graduated and directly related to priorities of the plan.

—Import tariff should be drastically revised. Import duty on machinery and spare parts should not exceed 20 per cent of CIF cost because high duty on these items is an inhibiting tax on investment and efficient maintenance of machinery.

—Rate of Super tax should be lower than the general rate leaving enough resources for reinvestment.

—Expansion should be included in BMR facility.

—Export incentives call for a substantial re-orientation. They should be substantial in quantum and few in number to have a significant effect on decision-making.

—There should be income tax slabs of increasing exemptions for non-traditional and new items of export and for new destinations.

—Facilities of BMR, customs and excise duties and sales tax rebates should continue.

—BMR scheme should be revised. Within entitlement there should be no break-up of items. Industry may be allowed to import one or several components according to schedule of production.

—Concessionary finance should be graduated between 3 per cent and 6 per cent to reflect priorities.

—Provision be made to give ad hoc short term assistance for new/

minor items having potential of growth for purposes of publicity, freight, travel etc.

—In respect of export of vegetables and fruits, reliance should be placed on production increases in response to price increases, instead of quantity/price restrictions. Export of all vegetables should be allowed as importer wants a full range of assortment from one source, and on assured long term basis.

—For perishables, a wide farm-to-market network of roads is required. This is not possible in the immediate future. Hence vegetable growing zones should be encouraged in the vicinity of airports exclusively for export.

—A commodity compensation fund should be created from which a subsidy to farmers may be given in case of sharp decline in price of a commodity and its funds be replenished by cess to be levied on a commodity whose price registers a sharp rise.

—Industrial units exporting more than 50 per cent of their products should get discretionary option to import machinery and spares allowed by CCI & E from whatever source they like. Industrial units exporting less than 50 per cent of their production should not be allowed to import machinery and spares if these are being manufactured in the country. Such units may, however be allowed a foreign exchange entitlement of 2 per cent of their export earnings and permitted to accumulate upto 5 years for import of machinery under BMR.

—Government should enter into project aid agreements with developing countries to boost export of engineering goods.

—Marketing is the weakest area of our export efforts. Marketing information should be computerised to eliminate time-lag existing in its dissemination. In this task EPB should draw upon the continued cooperation of ITC and UNDP.

—The specialised cadre of commerce and trade group should be made a real reservoir of marketing expertise.

—Specialised journals and institutions catering to the promotion of productivity and quality improvement should be encouraged by the government.

LOSS OF OVERSEAS JOB OPPORTUNITIES SEEN; IMPACT DISCUSSED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 3 Apr 83 p 2

[Text]

It is time we gave serious thought to the future of Pakistanis working abroad. It now seems that most of the unskilled may be made to return home sooner than one could imagine till some months ago. The recent developments in the oil market will have serious repercussions on the economies of those oil producing countries where most of our Pakistani brethren are now employed. It should be clear even to a man of average intelligence that reduction in the price of oil from 34 dollars a barrel to 29 dollars and forecast of further fall to 20 dollars or below, is such as would force the oil producers to cut down and economise on current and development expenditures. Announcements about cuts in development plans in some of these countries as also spreading of expenditure on on-going projects through extension of completion dates, have already been made. Contracts which were under negotiation and even some

of those which had been awarded for extension of refineries or building up of new refineries or desalination plants, have been dropped or cancelled. Non-strategic road-building and other construction activity related to the improvement in the life style of the people has either been slowed down or postponed till better times.

Now, these are the spheres in which most of our people who number somewhere between 30 and 35 lakh (though officially they number only 20 to 25 lakh) are involved. It is very likely that quite a few of them would be laid off within this year or the next. And, it is our view—though we very sincerely pray we may be proved wrong—that the oil market is not likely to show much improvement price-wise or consumption wise, till the very late 80's.

In this background would'nt it be advisable that we plan from now to tackle the problem that the

country would be faced with when these better salaried foreign employed will be returning home? Our job opportunities being what they are, our low wage rates compared with those available in the oil-producing countries, will, in all likelihood, have considerable psychological effect on the returning persons and their families, which may well give rise to social problems.

BUSINESS RECORDER is of the view that immediate steps be taken and serious efforts made to make Pakistanis working abroad and their families within the country realise the situation that is developing and the hardship they and their families are likely to face. Every effort should be made to bring home to them the necessity for saving their earnings for the future they are likely to face. Currently well over 60 per cent of their earnings go into the consumption sector. They cannot be blamed for it, for a large majority of these people and their fami-

lies have had to live on pittance in their villages and townships and now that they can afford it they want to have a pucca roof on their heads and such other things of which they felt deprived before and which were available to their more fortunate brethren. They and their families have to be made to realize that to maintain and keep what they have now got, they must spend less and save more and invest more in safe and profitable schemes. It is the national duty of all those working in the financial and banking spheres to mount a vigorous campaign to bring home the danger that lurks ahead and persuade both the workers abroad and their families at home to save as much as they can even at a pinch. Much of this campaign will have to be mounted abroad. We make hold to say that whatever is being done currently is not enough and attempts that are supposedly being made are not very visible even to a discerning eye.

CANADIAN EXPERTS SUBMIT REPORT ON ENERGY RESERVES

Karachi DAWN in English 4 Apr 83 p 1

[Text]

LAHORE, April 3: A team of Canadian experts has submitted a preliminary report on energy reserves in Pakistan, to the Planning Commission.

Knowledgeable sources informed 'Dawn' here today that the report was also being studied by a working group on the subject, constituted by the Commission, to give recommendations for the next Five-Year Plan. The experts, who are understood to have taken stock of overall energy requirements of the country, have recommended certain measures for the next Plan period. Reports of various organisations, engaged in exploration, transmission and supply of gas and oil, were used as reference in support of the recommendations made by the experts.

The report has been circulated among the concerned quarters for comments.

The experts were paid US dollars 1.7 million by the Pakistan Government, for the preparation of the report.

According to information available, the experts have claimed the existence of a substantial quantity of undiscovered gas reserves in Pakistan.

According to the sources, the Government has also started re-studying a report on "energy reserves in Pakistan", which was submitted by a foreign company in 1977. Its experts had claimed the availability of over 32 trillion cubic feet of gas in the gas fields surveyed at that time.

PROBLEMS OF DETERMINING INFLATION RATE DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 Business Supplement pp I, IV

[Article by M. Ziauddin]

[Text]

PAKISTAN is emerging out of a five-year bout of runaway inflation. But according to independent economists the rate is still fast and requires to be moderated as a prerequisite to restructuring the economy on healthier footing.

When asked to comment on the wide margin of difference between the contention of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) that prices have increased by an average of 30 per cent per annum over the past five years and the official claim that the rate of inflation during the first eight months of the current fiscal year was under five per cent, these economists said that the two parties were talking about two different time-frames. The former is talking about the five-year period ending June, 1982 and the latter about the period since June 1982. With reference to the period since June 1982, these economists did not believe the rate of inflation to be as high as 30 per cent, but doubted that it was as low as five per cent.

Imported component

They said the domestic rate of inflation has been declining over the past 18 months mainly because of a discernible slowdown in the rate of imported component of inflation, a development resulting from worldwide recession.

During 1981-82 the rate of increase in the prices of imports was around 20.1 per cent of GDP, and the import unit value index in July 1981-March 1982 rose by only 10.5 per cent whereas it had recorded a sharp increase of 23.5 per cent, in the same period in 1980-81. But in the opinion of these experts due to an adverse impact on the domestic prices of imported goods in view of an average 20 per cent depreciation of the rupee vis-a-vis US dollar since the delinking, the imported component of inflation did not moderate to the extent it should have.

In view of the above explanation, they assumed that the official rate of inflation had not contracted during the first eight months of current fiscal by as much of 6 per cent even if it was computed to have increased by about 11 per cent during 1981-82.

This assumption, they said, emerges out of a feeling that computing the rate of inflation was imperfect to the extent of being unrealistic and totally irrelevant to the real economic trends.

They nevertheless agreed that every figure in print, and even every official figure in print, was not necessarily meaningful. They said this was especially the case when the object being measured was not absolutely precise and when the manner in which the measures were computed was necessarily arbitrary. The problem arises most strikingly in connection with changes in the quality of goods and services provided, they added.

In their opinion there was a real and actual insoluble problem as to how individual observations should be combined into a single number. They asked: "Should we use as weights, for example, the relative importance of the various items at the beginning or end of a period?" In any case, they said, the computed average was often sensitive to the answer given and, therefore, there was in their opinion no best answer.

The varying measure

Explaining the matter further they said, inflation simply means that the prices in general were rising. And more precisely, it has to do with the average of all or perhaps of a selected group of prices. The measures in common use for computing the price level include index of consumer price, index of wholesale price, the general index (the implicit price deflator for the gross national product), the stock market prices, farm product prices, prices paid by farmers, spot market prices and so on. However, in their opinion, for an understanding of the inflationary process and of its consequence the first three indices mentioned above were quite sufficient.

They conceded that the two parties, the government and the business community, could be computing their respective rates of inflation by any of the known and accepted methods and were getting different answers for the simple reason that their reporting methods as well as their baskets might be different.

Basis for indices

The official consumer price index is computed on the basis of a basket containing approximately 350 items. The prices of these items are collected on fortnightly and monthly basis from about four markets each from 12 cities (Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Hyderabad, Multan, Sukkur, Gujranwala, Faisalabad and Sialkot). Each city has a specific number price collectors who are grade 11 functionaries. Their number varies from city to city according to workload. For instance, Rawalpindi has about 20-25 price collectors. Their work is supervised by officers in

grade 16, 17 and 18.

From this, it is clear that most of the urban area of the country are not being covered. The coverage of the 12 centres, too, is limited to few markets only. Other markets surely need to be included as retail prices vary in different localities/markets. The prices reportedly are not weighted by quotation of sales or by number of stores in all the markets of the city which might be different from the average prices per unit used for the index number.

Agricultural commodities are not graded hence the inspectors reportedly do not to maintain standard list of such commodities for collection of retail prices. Due to frequent changes in specification of manufactured goods it is not possible for these inspectors to maintain continuity of quotations.

In the computation, new series of CPI, weights have been related to quantities of goods and services purchased by the consumers in 1978. These weights relate to 1978 only and hence do not necessarily reflect the true picture of purchases of other periods. The CPI measures only price changes of fixed basket of goods and services and does not consider effects of changes in family size, consumption (demand of various articles) and incomes in different periods of times.

Drawbacks

These are some of the drawbacks of the official CPI which have been identified by official sources themselves. But the major drawback in the entire exercise is the allotting of out of proportion weight to each item of the basket and the distortions in their reported prices. For instance, the weights of house rent, education and health and their prices are quoted so low, thanks to the law of averages, that they look totally irrelevant to the actual situation on ground.

In May 1982 the house rents were officially quoted as follows: Gujranwala: Rs 159.77, Hyderabad: Rs 166.61, Islamabad: Rs 155.35, Karachi: Rs 181.09, Lahore: 156.18, Faisalabad: Rs 154.28, Multan: Rs 154.24, Peshawar: Rs 165.88, Quetta: Rs 145.48, Rawalpindi: Rs 150.94, Sialkot: Rs 163.01 and Sukkur: Rs 152.26.

The expenditure on education has been dismissed with the mention of college fees for first year and B.A. and the prices of Urdu, English and mathematics textbooks for class I, V, X, XI, exercise book, foolscap paper, pencil, slate, pen and pen ink. And expenditure on health has been confined to the mention of some 16 most commonly used simple drugs and their prices.

Prices of items of food, beverages, tobacco, textiles, footwear, housing and household mentioned in the official price lists are usually off the mark and sometime differ from actual prices in the market by as much as 10 to 20 per cent and in some cases even by 30 per cent. And these differences continue to distort the picture of inflation rate month after month and year after year, making it impossible after a time-frame to know exactly what is happening on the price front.

Relationship with growth

Officials would surely argue that if the rate of inflation had been as high as that quoted by the business community, the country's growth rate should have been drastically curbed as economy's capacity to produce is lowered by high inflation. Independent economists dismiss this argument as misleading because, in their opinion, the massive infusion of money (in the shape of remittances) in the economy has actually distorted the

reality beyond recognition. They say that the annual income of over two billion dollars bears no relation to the country's productive capacity or its productivity.

On the other hand, the low level of savings rate and declining rate of investments, especially in the private sector, partly confirms the suspicion that the country has been passing through a period of high inflation. Investors' attention during the last five years was decidedly diverted from the task of production to the arena of speculation.

Opportunities have developed during this period for economic gains which have nothing, at all, to do with work or investment. Even businesses run inefficiently, and, with scant attention, have brought in windfall profits.

In the case of public sector, the high rate of inflation has robbed its ability to plan productions to meet future demands thereby creating shortages and cost escalations. And since the wages have remained almost constant since 1977-78, the high rate of inflation can be seen to have created grave inequities by transferring incomes from wage earners to the businessmen, the biggest of whom is the government. And the government continues to get poorer by the year because inflation is rapidly shaving off the buying capacity of the rupee.

IMPACT OF OPEC PRICE CUT ANALYZED

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 Business Supplement pp I, IV

[Article by Syed Mahdi Mustafa]

[Text]

THE DECISION of the government not to pass the benefits of the OPEC oil price cut, from \$34 a barrel to \$29 a barrel, on to the consumers has to be seen in the broader perspectives of our energy situation, in the context of energy generated by oil, in terms of the cost involved in importing it and, finally, in relation to the resource base of the economy.

In terms of quantity, Pakistan's import of crude oil which amounted to 3.1 million metric tons in 1972-73 rose by 97.3 per cent to 6.1 million metric tons in 1981-82. During the same period the value of imports increased from \$61.9 million to \$1691.2 million, a rise of over 2627 per cent

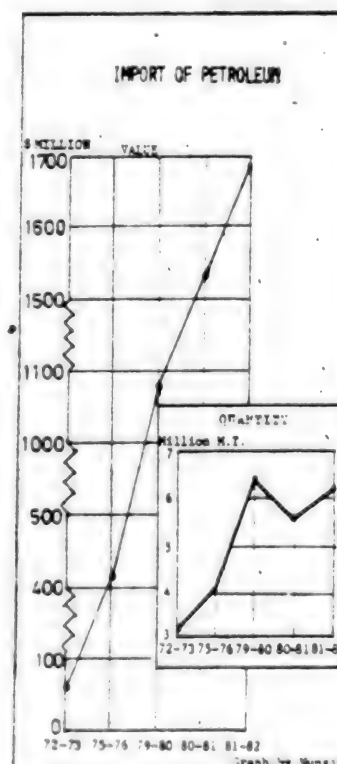
The period between 1979-80 and 1981-82 depicts a more disturbing trend. While the quantity of crude oil imported during this period decreased by 5.1 per cent the cost increased by 56.7 per cent.

The import of crude oil which constituted only 7.76 per cent of our total import bill in 1972-73 accounted for 30.61 per cent in 1981-82. The cost of importing crude in 1981-82 neutralised 68.97 per cent of our total export earnings compared to only 7.58 per cent in 1972-73.

The Government has taken a number of measures to offset the rise in the price of oil. One was to increase the local prices of

petroleum products and the other was to increase non-oil sources of energy.

Despite the progressive increases, the prices at the retail level have not, however, been sharp enough to compensate for the rise either in the prices of oil in the international market or for the loss in revenue to the government. During 1973-1982 while the benchmark price of the OPEC



countries went up from \$3 to \$34, a rise of more than 10 times, the domestic price of petrol was raised only 4.5 times from about Rs. 6 per gallon to Rs. 6 per litre.

On the other hand, there has been no corresponding increase in government revenues. In 1972-73, government collected more than Rs. 1000 million, roughly three times the total cost of import of oil, but in 1982 its total collections are only Rs. 1400 million whereas the cost of import has gone up to almost \$1700 million. Thus, the government's revenue from the import of oil which was almost 300 per cent in 1972-73 went down to only 7 per cent in 1981-82.

The Federal Minister for Finance, Planning & Development, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has quoted these figures to point out that the rise in prices of oil has not been transferred in full to the consumers. The economy of about \$150 million, that is now projected to be affected in the cost of import of oil, therefore, finds justification in being used by the government to supplement its resource base and also, to provide for new explorations.

Although the per capita consumption of energy in Pakistan is very low by international standards it, nevertheless, recorded a growth of between 9 and 10 per cent per annum during the last five years compared to a decline averaging six per cent for the industrialised countries. The Government has tried to solve this problem of rising demand by decreasing its dependence on oil and by increasing its utilisation of renewable energy sources.

Between 1976-77 and 1981-82, while the contribution of oil in the total energy base declined from 39 per cent to 35 per cent, energy supplied by hydel resources increased from 13.6 per cent to 17.2 per cent. The hydel resource, however, has the disadvantage of a decline in production depending on water availability. In off-seasons the supply of hydel energy, because of a decline in the availability of water resources, goes down to 38 per cent of the maximum and 42 per cent of the rated capacity resulting in considerable load-shedding and staggering of energy use.

The rise in energy consumption in Pakistan should be seen in the light of the sharp growth that the economy has experienced which has averaged about 6.5 per cent an-

nually during the last five years. The increase in the production of the agricultural sector — which brought in operation a large number of tubewells, employed a greater number of tractors and relied on greater production of fertilisers, which uses natural gas as a feedstock — as also the energy needs of some of the more energy intensive units like Pakistan Steel, have all contributed to a rising demand.

In fact the workers' remittances, which is an indispensable support for our balance of payments, has also created its own demand in the rural sector by way of additional demand for energy by the families receiving such remittances.

It is often pointed out that since Pakistan has been receiving oil at concessional terms, particularly from Iran in the recent past, some of the resultant benefits should be passed on to the consumers. In this context it needs to be noted that Pakistan imports only 10,000 barrels per day from Iran compared to 25,000 from UAE and 55,000 from Saudi Arabia.

Most of the oil that it imports from Saudi Arabia and UAE (as also from Kuwait) is related to the benchmark price then in operation. Pakistan has benefited from this pricing system because even when the spot market prices were hovering in the region of \$40 a barrel, Pakistan was able to purchase most of its requirements at the benchmark price of \$32 or \$34 a barrel.

Some economists are of the opinion that Pakistan's intake of Iranian oil should be allowed to increase so that the gains in prices may become more substantial. But lifting Iranian oil costs enormous insurance charges due to its war with Iraq. The price differential between Iranian oil and other oil may not be as advantageous as it may appear at first sight.

In adjusting Pakistan's pricing policy to the international supply situation of crude oil, one must take into account the fact that the present glut in international market is generally analysed to be a temporary phenomenon. As soon as the industrialised countries come out of their present recession, the demand for oil would pick up and may become considerably greater than the presently agreed OPEC ceiling of 17.5 million bar-

rels a day.

World consumption of OPEC oil has dropped to as low as 14 million barrels presently, but this is a situation that is not going to last for long. It is generally forecast that in another year or two, the demand would pick up and although it may not reach the peak of 31 million barrels a day of 1980, it would still be close to 25 million barrels a day. The slump in oil prices, may, therefore, prove to be too temporary a phenomenon to allow adjustments in local prices on a long-term basis.

Another important factor which must be taken into account is the fact that prices of oil have gone down only in terms of the US dollar which itself has appreciated in terms of other international currencies. In any case, in terms of Pakistani rupee it has gone up considerably.

Even more advanced countries, like Italy, Britain and Japan, have decided not to pass on the benefit to the consumers. In fact, a debate is going on in the United States, where it is being suggested that a tax ranging from between \$5 to \$10 a barrel should be imposed on all imported as well as domestically produced oil, so that the country's present drive towards conservation as also towards exploration of other sources of energy is not halted.

Countries like India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka with natural endowments not very different from that of Pakistan have already taken a policy decision to keep their oil prices at the present level.

The present prices in Pakistan are not very high anyway. In fact, they are lower than in many industrialised countries including UK, Japan and France as also in India.

Far from expecting a cut, the Pakistani consumers will be well advised to prepare themselves for progressive increases in the prices of energy sources during the Sixth Plan Period.

The Sixth Five Year Plan has tentatively projected an investment of Rs. 100 billion in the energy sector of which Rs. 30 billion is expected to be generated from internal resources and Rs 40 billion through external assistance. To meet the balance, the Government is actively considering increases in energy prices.

PRIVATE SECTOR ATTITUDES BLAMED FOR LOW PRODUCTIVITY

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 Business Supplement p III

[Text]

THE STORY is that once three shipwrecked persons finally floated, on logs perhaps, to an uninhabited island. Their total inventory was one tin of cooked food. Starving as they were, they had to open the tin to grab out of it whatever grub they could. But they had no tin opener.

One of them who was an engineer said that at least a knife was needed of no other tool was available. The second a philosopher who was feeling very low, opined that finally one has to die, one way or the other, one eats or does not, matters little ultimately. The third an economist said heroically "assume that we have a knife and proceed."

Economists are prone to heroic assumptions particularly in the absence of needed tools; and their tools are mostly truck-loads of figures which they like to feed into the mouths of their giant computers, who after chewing the cud are supposed to eject correct answers.

The heroic assumption in our country is that our labour is not productive enough with the concomitant assumption that capital is productive, that is to say as productive as it can be with such labour.

The wage bill

Let us look at the reality. But we have first to confront the reality that we have no figures of the total 'wage bill' paid out to labour force in the country by their employers.

At the national level, the total,

value added in 1981-82, by the employment of 24.5 million labour force and using, assumingly, the entire available capital stock, was estimated at Rs. 292 billion. It was Rs. 250 billion and Rs. 213 billion in 1980-81 and 1979-80 respectively with the employment of 23.81 million and 23.13 million workers of all kinds, types or categories.

It is apparent from these sets of data that the national cake increased by Rs. 42 billion in 1981-82 by increasing the labour stock by 0.69 million workers and by Rs. 37 billion in 1980-81 when the labour stock had increased by 0.68 million workers. Thus the marginal productivity of labour in 1981-82 at Rs. 60,869 was about 12 per cent higher as against Rs. 54,412 in 1980-81.

Since the GDP deflator climbed up by about 9 per cent in 1981-82, the real increase in productivity of labour was of three per cent which in itself is not bad, especially when every one else in the community is harping on the tune of our labour being non-productive.

In the matter of output, labour is not alone. Its important partner is capital. As economists are fond of symbols these days, they put the thought through the following mathematical symbols:

Where output (or X) is a function of capital (or K) and labour (or L), the marginal product of capital and labour is represented by:

The gross fixed capital, as per Statistics Bureau increased by Rs. 41 billion in 1980-81 and Rs. 48.6 billion in 1981-82.

Capital productivity

This means that marginal capital productivity in the country (ignoring labour as we had ignored capital earlier while computing labour productivity) was 1:0.90 in 1980-81 and 1:0.86 in 1981-82. Thus there was a fall in capital productivity by 4.4 per cent in 1981-82.

This shows that in 1981-82 in the matter of productivity capital was the villain of the piece and not labour. Capital has, in fact, not been behaving well in recent years and there are several reasons for it; both internal and external.

Among internal factors, the most prominent is the emergence of sick units in the urban large scale manufacturing sector. As an aftermath of the high tide of nationalisation in the early seventies, the industrial capitalists developed sickness in their attitudes towards entrepreneurship and the efficient management of their own units for the scare of nationalisation gnawed all their entrepreneurial venture-some spirit; and asylum was sought through a rush on raising debt equity ratios.

Efforts to improve efficiency of the industrial units were shifted towards employing their own funds away from industry into trade, construction and other sectors. If equipment depleted in manufacturing unit, the industrial capitalist did no longer care, for the unit in any case was run mostly on borrowed funds. What the industrial capitalist really cared was investment of his own funds in more lucrative sectors other than industry.

"Sick" attitude

Later, the aid that started trickling in to sick units from an anxious government hardened the capitalist in his "sick attitude". It has become fashionable these days to call one's unit 'sick' and beg for

government help. This smacks of the "fallacy of misplaced concreteness", if you know what this economic jargon means. The need is for a change of heart on the part of industrial capitalists in the private sector.

In the public sector, investment has increased considerably during the seventies. The pace of investment in large scale industry in the public and private sectors since 1972-73 has increasing tilted, till the end of seventies, towards the public sector as follows:

	Rs. Billion	
	Public	Private
1972-73	0.1	0.8
1973-74	0.4	0.7
1974-75	1.1	1.0
1975-76	3.2	1.3
1976-77	4.5	1.5
1977-78	6.1	1.5
1978-79	6.6	1.6
1979-80	6.6	2.2
1980-81	4.8	2.7
1981-82	4.0	3.1
Total of last ten years	37.4	16.4

Since the life of industrial capital is generally expected to be 10 years, the above investment represents the machinery and equipment which is perhaps the most active. The industrial machinery and equipment installed prior to 1972-73 would be in different stages of depletion.

Total private industrial investment during the decade ended 1982-83 has been less than half of public sector. This has probably resulted in the decline in capital productivity as indicated by the figures for the last three years. The value added in large scale manufacturing sector increased by Rs. 1.9 billion in 1978-79, Rs. 5.1 billion in 1979-80, Rs. 5.2 billion in 1980-81 and Rs. 5.4 billion in 1981-82. The new investment in large scale man-

ufacturing industries was Rs. 8.2 billion in 1978-79, Rs. 3.8 billion in 1979-80, Rs. 7.5 billion in 1980-81 and Rs. 7.1 billion in 1981-82.

These figures make the startling revelation that marginal productivity of investment had drifted to the low level of 1:0.23 in 1978-79. It picked up to 1:0.58 in 1979-80; 1:0.69 in 1980-81 and 1:0.76 in 1980-81 but was still below the average for the economy as a whole (1:0.86 in 1981-82).

The trends at a glance are as given in table below.

The international economic situation has also been unfavourable for large scale manufacturing sector. The prices of oil increased during the seventies raising the cost of production in general. Till recently, the international recession had been stubbornly persistent. The anti-inflationary policies of industrially advanced countries have been responsible for sluggish growth of world export. The restrictive policies of these countries coupled with their increasing protectionism has seriously affected exports of our manufactured goods.

Unless the world economy comes out of the woods the situation is not likely to improve. There are now signs of such a happening in the near future as the growth expectations in major industrial countries of the West are improving. Since exporters in Pakistan are the 'price takers' from the international market the answer lies in girding up our loins to lower the unit costs of production by fully utilising installed industrial capacity and increasing the capital and labour productivity. Increasing the edge of our competitiveness in the international market, which has been helped by the adoption of managed floating system of exchange rate since January 8, 1982, provides the answer. But do we feel upto it!—B.I.H.

The trends at a glance are as follows:

	(Rs. billion)		
	Annual change in money value added in large scale industry	Annual net investment in money terms	Ratio of (1) to (2)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
1978-79	+ 1.9	+ 8.2	0.23
1979-80	+ 5.1	+ 8.8	0.58
1980-81	+ 5.2	+ 7.5	0.69
1981-82	+ 5.4	+ 7.1	0.76

PAKISTAN STEEL GENERATOR TO START IN JUNE

Karachi DAWN in English 3 Apr 83 p 10

[Text]

Pakistan Steel's third power generator will be ready for commissioning by June this year as scheduled, but it is not yet certain if it would get the promised supplies of natural gas.

The generator is being installed at a cost of about Rs. 300 million. Like the two earlier units, it will also have a 55-MW capacity and will consume about 12-13 mcf gas daily.

When the order for this generator was placed with the Soviet Union, natural gas was available in the required quantities. The generator was therefore designed to be run on gas.

The present gas supply position is acute and it is with difficulty that the Pakistan Steel is getting about 26 mcf gas daily for the two operational units.

If the availability of natural gas is not assured, experts will have to think of devices to convert it to other fuels like HSD, furnace oil etc. which will cost extra.

In any case, sources said, it was possible that the commissioning of the third generator might be delayed on account of non-availability of gas or its conversion to other substitutes.

CSO: 4600/514

GHEE WORKERS OPPOSE DENATIONALIZATION

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 5

[Text]

PESHAWAR, April 1: The Pakistan Vegetable Ghee and Oil Mills Workers Federation has strongly opposed any move to denationalise Ghee mills,

It has also demanded a ban on the manufacture of solid cooking oil and fixation of the retail price of cooking oil at Rs 7 per kilogram.

Addressing a Press conference here the Federation placed these and some other demands, relating to workers' welfare, before the Government and warned that if the demands were not met the nationalised ghee mills workers would stage protest demonstrations.

They announced that the Federation will hold a convention at Kalashahkaku in mid-April to decide their future course of action.

Mr Gulzar Ahmed Choudhry,

President, and Mr Hafizullah Cheeman, General Secretary, said that the workers had served the nation commendably and deserved similar treatment from the Government. They said that through their efforts the ghee production rose to 482,000 metric tons during the current year as against 110,000 metric tons prior to nationalisation.

Similarly, Government excise revenues rose from Rs 90 million, prior to nationalisation, to Rs 1,108 million, while Rs 40 million were paid by the nationalised ghee mills in other taxes, they revealed.

Besides, they said without raising the prices which remained at the 1976 level, the Pakistan Ghee Corporation earned Rs 78 million as profits during the last financial year. Despite these achievements the ghee mills were being restored to their original owners, they said.

CSO: 4600/513

DOMESTIC OIL PRICES DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 9

[Article by A. T. Chaudhri]

[Text] After the lowering of the price tag on the oil barrel by OPEC, the inflation-stricken people at home expected some relief in the scamper of fuel prices which have shot up twice since last June. But the stewards of the national economy have turned a deaf ear to the growing public demand for a price cut in indigenous or OPEC oil whose soaring cost has had a spiral effect on the cost of living index — rather misery index.

The chief reasons advanced by the "public-spirited" managers of the economy against any drop in domestic oil prices are these: (a) the fall in the OPEC price by five dollars is a "temporary aberration" caused by the current glut in the oil market and world economic recession; once the glut is over and the international economy recovers, the demand for oil and its price would again go up; (b) the saving in the oil import bill cannot be passed on to the consumers; it would be utilised for exploring oil and developing indigenous energy resources; and (c) to develop the energy sector, in the Sixth Five-Year Plan, for which Rs. 100 billion are being earmarked, the government would have to borrow external funds at a heavy cost. So, it will not be in the "national interest" to give

the benefit of the slump in oil prices to those waiting to stomach the oil spills.

On the face of it, some of these arguments may sound realistic from a purely economic — or revenue-grabbing? — viewpoint, but one doubts if they have any social relevance. Even from the economic viewpoint, it is difficult to agree with the idle speculation of financial "wizards" that the oil glut is likely to vanish and the oil prices would again shoot up. This is allowing one's fancy to outrun the facts.

In the opinion of the oil industry analysts of international repute, OPEC's latest pricing and production package — reference price of \$29 a barrel and production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day — is too "fragile" to be sustained. Ultimately, the world oil prices may drop to 25 dollars a barrel, or less, and the total production of OPEC may decline to an average of 15m b.d. (Of late OPEC output has been as low as 13m b.d.)

The fact is, and it must be squarely faced, that the decade of OPEC — 1973 to 1983 — in which those floating on a sea of oil earned a fabulous annual surplus of 152 billion dollars, is over. Even if the world economy recovers, the economic growth would not be "gas-greedy"; it may be sustained by synthetic fuel and solar or nuclear energy.

If the forebodings of our "experts" on the future of oil are open to question, so are their contentions about retaining the inflated domestic price of oil. So far, their

pet argument for inflating the oil price in season and out of season — it has doubled during the past four years and escalated 11 times since the Seventies — was that the upsurge became inevitable in the wake of international "stagflation." This argument has now lost all validity, since OPEC prices have declined by one seventh and inflation in most of the First world nations is currently down to a five per cent mark.

The saving

Pakistan is now in a position to effect a saving of Rs. 1,500 million in the oil import bill, as official estimates indicate, and that brings a bonanza to the national economy. Then, there is a boom of 25 per cent or more in the world commodity prices which had fallen to a disastrously low levels in 1982. These price changes are likely to add billions to the trade of the South. Since there is price depression of the commodities imported by the South — for instance, soyabean oil, which has declined from \$442 to \$39 per tonne — during the last six months, the liquidity of the developing nations should substantially improve in the near future. (Not only has the spot price of crude gone down, but that of premium gasoline has plummeted from \$480 to \$268 per tonne and diesel oil from \$420 to \$232 a tonne.)

One might also mention here that interest rates are no more "an all time high" as was stated at the NAM summit, these have halved since the 1981 peak. In the U.S. the drop is from 20 per cent to 10.5 per cent, while the London Inter-Bank rate has slumped from 17 per cent to 9 per cent. This, according to expert opinion, should reduce in interest payment of the South by \$58 billion a year, which equals the trade deficit of the third world na-

tions this year. So, Pakistan is going to benefit on two counts, it would pay less for crude imports and get more from exports, that should help cut chronic budgetary deficit and stimulate growth.

Seen in this context, it is intriguing why the people should not have a timely respite from the double-digit inflation, which has skyrocketed to nearly 30 per cent a year, if the statistics compiled by the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry are not to be lightly dismissed. The official contention that the rate of inflation is no more than 8 per cent a year would cut no ice with the people groaning under economic deprivations. What touches a sore nerve in the public is that it has not only to pay an exceptionally high price for oil, but thrice the world price of sugar and twice that of cement.

Those responsible for the nation's financial house-keeping do not seem to realise that a periodic rise in the price of something as basic as fuel must affect a long range of items in several sectors and lead to a general escalation of costs and prices. In last June, petroleum prices were arbitrarily pushed up by 7 per cent owing to depreciation in the value of rupee following its delinking with the dollar. (That, incidentally, thoroughly undermined the public credibility of our top monetarists who would have the people believe, a year ago, that the rupee-dollar delink would not spur inflation.)

In last January, oil prices were again raised in a callous manner by another 10 per cent. The gullible consumers were assured that there will be only a "minimal raise" in the oil-run transport fares. But once again the policy-makers were proved wrong. The transporters jumped over the traces and got their pound of flesh, unmindful of

public weal and woe. Recently, bus fares have been revised upward in the Punjab to satisfy the profit-motive of some Shylocks.

If the hard-nosed transporters continue to add to the economic burdens of the people, the oil companies, too go on adding "golden numbers to golden numbers." Pakistan State Oil has declared a handsome dividend for its shareholders this year and Pakistan Burma Shell has vied with it in presenting an opulent balance-sheet. The production of domestic oil — it now accounts for about 14 per cent of national needs is steadily inching up, but it must sell at the old OPEC price. The fall in OPEC prices would replenish the State revenues by \$140 million. But no balm would be brought for the sores of the poor consumers who are hard put to making both ends meet.

Now, the government's keenness to channelise the solid chunk of savings in the oil import bill to finance the cost of developing oilfields — some 200 to 250 wells are to be dug in the next Five-Year Plan — is somewhat understandable. But the question is: if additional finance is desperately needed to implement the massive energy plan, must the people be made to pay more for commodities and services in utter disregard of their capacity to pay? Why not resort to public borrowing instead of subjecting the people to further impoverishment? Again, instead of making the people groan under the unbearable burden of indirect taxation, why can't the managers of economy, who claim to be solicitous of public welfare, slash the non-development expenditure, notably the cost of administration which continues to soar and describe unsavoury curves, year after year?

USSR MAY HELP EXPAND STEEL MILLS

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 4

[Text] ISLAMABAD, April 1: The Soviet Union intends to help Pakistan to further expand the steel plant in Karachi for doubling its production after the completion of the first phase of the plant, expected by August 1984.

This was stated by Mr Bakin, Soviet Minister for Special Construction, in an interview with Radio Moscow broadcast on March 30. He recently returned home after touring Pakistan at the head of a Soviet delegation.

The Soviet Minister said Pakistan and the Soviet Union had reached an agreement for further speeding up the remaining construction work of the steel mills in the first phase. "We have to complete construction of two rolling mills one is near completion while the other is under construction. About 8,000 tons of goods have been supplied for it, while 12,000 tons of electric and automatic equipment are still to be supplied for this purpose," he added.

He hoped that Pakistan would become self-sufficient in the steel production to a great extent with the completion of the steel mills and would be able to save up to 200 million dollars every year.

Mr Bakin said the Karachi steel plant would have latest equipment. He contradicted allegations by some Western mass media about the poor quality of Soviet goods for the mills. Pakistan had also announced that there was no complaint as far as the quality of Soviet goods was concerned, he added.

He said his delegation also considered providing Soviet assistance for the establishment of many new industrial projects in Pakistan, including a thermohydro power station and an oil refinery. He said: "We have also expressed our willingness to consider setting up a metallurgical institute in Pakistan to solve the problems of training and education in this field."

He said Pakistan Finance Minister had been invited to visit Moscow for continuing discussion on it to reach final decision.

Mr Bakin said: "We highly value the outcome of our visit to Pakistan during which we held discussions in a sincere and friendly atmosphere."

In reply to a question, he also spoke on Pakistan-Soviet relations with reference to the Afghan situation. He said: "Beginning of (indirect) talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan through the personal envoy of UN Secretary General have been a matter of satisfaction for the Soviet people. We wish success to these talks, though direct talks between the concerned parties will be source of strength for them."—APP

CSO: 4600/513

NUSRAT BHUTTO'S ACTIVITIES IN LONDON REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 12

[Article by Yehia Syed]

[Text]

LONDON, April 1: The Home Office has informed an MP that Begum Nusrat Bhutto did not come to London. When the MP, who was responsible for getting an invitation signed by 25 MPs asking the Begum to come to London, instead asked: "Could she have been and now gone back?" the Home Office said, "could be."

But "Dawn", reliably learns that when Begum Nusrat Bhutto came to London on March 18 from Geneva she was politely, but firmly, asked by the Home Office not to indulge in issuing statements, giving interviews or attending political meetings during her stay in London.

She agreed to the condition, but also added her own condition: That the Home Office, at least for the first few days, should categorically give a statement saying that Mrs Bhutto, who came on March 18, was in fact Nusrat. The Home Office accepted it.

The purpose of Nusrat Bhutto's coming to London was two fold — first to get herself examined by some Harley Street Specialists for a second opinion. Secondly she

wanted to meet her relations and friends during the "Nauroz," festival.

Begum Nusrat Bhutto consulted Harley Street specialists and also met her friends and relatives. She did not stay here for more than five or six days and rushed back to France. During this period the Home Office kept on saying, "A Mrs Bhutto ex-Geneva was admitted for 2/3 weeks as a visitor." After some five days or so, the Home Office made a categorical statement, "Widow of Bhutto, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, was admitted ex-Geneva for 2/3 weeks...."

But even now Begum Nusrat Bhutto's younger sister, Khanum Behjat Hariri, denies that her sister ever came to Britain. Nusrat, Khanum Hariri still says, is in France and resting under doctor's orders.

In the meanwhile, according to an advertisement published in an Urdu London daily, Khanum Behjat Hariri, Sanam Bhutto, M. Arif and Labour MP, Ron Brown, among others, would be addressing "Bhutto Day," meeting scheduled for April 3 (Sunday).

CSO: 4600/513

DOCUMENTARY ON QUAID-I-AZAM PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 2

[Text]

LONDON, April 1- An agreement to make a 52-minute documentary film (also on video tape) on the life and accomplishments of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah was signed this morning at the Pakistan Embassy here between the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Pakistan and Cygnet Ltd of the UK, specialists in making documentaries. The agreement was signed by the Pakistan Ambassador, Mr. Ali Arshad, and Mr. Rae Evans, Managing Director Cygnet Ltd. Cygnet Ltd. UK, has produced more than 3,500 documentaries, out of which 500 have won awards in film festivals, the latest being the Gold Star Award of the US film festival 1982 for its documentary on brain surgery. The Cygnet's team would visit Pakistan, India and the USA to collect necessary material for the documentary which is expected to be completed within a year.

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AIR FORCE SQUADRON RE-EQUIPPED WITH MIRAGE-V

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 15

[Text]

Vice-Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan, Chief of the Naval Staff, said in Karachi yesterday that the development of defence capability was designed to ensure continued peace and to enable the people to progress in tranquility.

He was speaking at a ceremony at PAF Base Masroor at which he re-equipped No. 8 Tactical Attack Squadron with the newly-received Mirage-V aircraft.

He said realising the need for long-range reconnaissance and air support to naval operations, Pakistan Navy had during the early 70s acquired the Atlantic, a maritime patrol aircraft of French origin, and Exocet-carrying Sea King helicopters.

The acquisition of the fast Mirage-V now added further to our overall defence capability, as it would enable PAF to meet its task of supporting naval operations in our waters of interest he added. He told the personnel of No. 8 Squadron that, just as they had received B-57s, the most advanced aircraft of their time 23 years ago, they were being equipped with another reputed and proven aircraft of our time in the shape of Mirage-V.

Earlier, while welcoming the naval chief, the Base Commander, Air Commodore Masud Hattif, threw light on the salient features of the newly-received aircraft which, along with its ground attack capability, specializes in naval support operations. He also thanked the Army and the Navy for not only appreciating the PAF point of view about the new weapon system but also facilitating its early procurement.

He said the PAF decided in 1979

to acquire Mirage-V. Their delivery started in 1982. In a short span of six months the aircraft have been completely absorbed and are fully operational. "I am confident that the ground and aircrew of No. 8 Squadron would rise to the occasion and fulfil the trust that has been placed in them", he affirmed.

On his arrival at the parade ground, Vice-Admiral Tariq Kamal Khan was received by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Muhammad Anwar Shamim, and the Base Commander. The No. 8 Squadron, which was on parade along with the newly-received Mirage-V, gave him the general salute. The Chief of the Naval Staff inspected the squadron.

The squadron colour was then marched on parade. At a solemn ceremony the naval chief awarded the colour to its new custodians. He saluted the banner, which was then consecrated and marched to the squadron.

A model of Mirage-V was presented to the naval chief on behalf of officers and men of No. 8 Squadron.

There followed an acrobatic display by a Mirage aircraft. The low-level manoeuvres were performed by Wing Commander Khalid Sartar, Officer Commanding No. 8 Squadron. The Chiefs of the Navy and Air Force later inspected the aircraft and its weapons.

The ceremony was attended by the French Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr. Jean Gory, other members of the diplomatic corps, provincial ministers, members of Federal Council and senior officers of three services.

BRIEFS

GOODWILL JOBS ABROAD--TARBELA, March 31--Federal Labour and Manpower Minister Mr Ghulam Dastgir Khan today said, a group of 10 to 20 workers from Pakistan will be selected every month to be given employment abroad as part of goodwill. All the 327 private recruiting agencies, plus a Government controlled agency in the country will soon be given necessary instructions after a meeting between the Ministry concerned's high ups and the agencies' owners, the Minister said. The Minister was speaking at a function at Tarbela, organised by the Tarbela Dam WAPDA Employees Union. The Minister, however, made it clear that the Government did not want to exploit trade unions by giving these incentives as it did not have any political intentions. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 9]

PROTEST AGAINST RAO'S DETENTION--FAISALABAD, March 31--The General Secretary of the District Bar Association, Tobateksingh, Chaudhry Mukhtar Ahmad Zafar; Raja Mubriaz Khan, a former MNA; the General Secretary of the defunct PPP, Punjab, Sardar Yunus Bali; have, through separate Press statements, protested against the detention of Irshad Rao, Editor, weekly "AL-Fatah," and demanded that he should be removed to hospital and provided adequate medical facilities. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 9]

WAGE BOARD FOR JOURNALISTS--The fourth Wage Board for the newspaper workers and journalists will be constituted next year, Federal Minister for Labour Mr Ghulam Dastgir Khan, told newsmen in Karachi yesterday. He said the new Wage Board will prepare the 4th award for newspaper workers in the light of inflation in the country. Replying to a question, he said that his Ministry did not issue any directive for payment of dearness allowance to the newspaper workers. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 20]

NEWSMAN ACQUITTED--LAHORE, April 1--The Summary Military Court No. 2 has acquitted Mr. Idrees Butt, Bureau chief, daily "Amn", Karachi. Mr. Butt was arrested by Old Anarkali Police in September last in a pamphlet case and was released later on furnishing bail bond of Rs. 2 lakh. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 5]

LEADER ON MRD'S ROLE--HYDERABAD, April 1--The President MRD, Hyderabad, Mr. Farooqul Hassan Jeelani, has said that MRD is determined to restore the rule of law. Addressing a Press conference on Thursday, he said the people of Pakistan politically conscious and they knew how to fight for their democratic

rights. Mr. Farooqul Hassan Jeelani, who is also District Chairman of the defunct Tehrik-e-Istiqlal, maintained that the people were being kept in dark about the revival of 1959 agreement with America. He criticised the arrest of workers of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal in Peshawar on March 23. Mr. Jeelani claimed that MRD workers were being harassed and two workers had even been implicated in a dacoity case and when they had been released by the Sessions Court, they were again implicated in a "false case" under the Hadood Ordinance. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 5]

NEWSPRINT FACTORY PLANNED--MULTAN, April 1--The Punjab Government has decided to set up a newsprint manufacturing factory, at an estimated cost of about Rs 2 billion. The factory will be set up at Kamalia under the supervision of provincial Industrial Development Board. It is likely to be completed in three years. The Board will incur more than 50 per cent of the total estimated expenditure from its own resources. The factory will have an annual production capacity of 66,000 tons of newsprint. The plan for setting up of this factory has been approved by the Government to meet the requirements of newsprint in the country. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 5]

JI'S MADRASAS NUMBER 2500--THALWAL, April 1--The Ameer of the defunct Jammati-Islami, Mian Tufail Mohammad, while addressing a meeting here in connection with the Hafta-i-Taleemul Quran said that the Jamaat has established 2,500 Madrasas in the country for teaching of the Holy Quran and is trying to increase the number of Madrasas to 5,000. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Apr 83 p 8]

300 BIOGAS PLANTS PLANNED--MULTAN, April 3--Three hundred biogas plants are being installed in rural reas of Multan Division. This was disclosed at a meeting of Divisional Coordination Committee, held here under the chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner, Mr Hassan Raza Pasha. Addressing the meeting, the Commissioner said that the Punjab Government was actively considering to implement the scheme under its own supervision. He urged all members of the committee to stress upon the importance of biogas to combat the prevailing fuel shortage in rural areas. [Karachi DAWN in English 4 Apr 83 p 5]

X-RAY FILM PLANT PLANNED--The Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) will set up an X-ray film plant at a cost of Rs 100 million, in collaboration with People's Republic of China. This was announced by Mr. Ghulam Dastagir Khan, Federal Minister for Labour and Manpower, while talking to newsmen yesterday. He said a three-member Chinese team, including two lady engineers, was in Islamabad on a 10-day visit to hold negotiations with officials concerned. The Minister said the plans were at the initial stage and details would be worked out after the delegation submits its feasibility report in the matter. Replying to a question, he said the site of the proposed project has not yet been decided. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Apr 83 p 15]

HOME REMITTANCE FIGURES REPORTED--The total quantum of home remittances inflow into Pakistan increased by more than 1,500 per cent during the decade 1972 to 1982. According to a study by one of the nationalised banks, the total inflow of remittances during 1981-82 amounted to 2,395 million dollars as against only 146.3 million dollars in 1972-73. The fastest increase in private transfers occurred during the period 1975-76 to 1981-82. According to the study

the home remittances almost doubled from 353.4 million dollars in 1975-76 to about 591 million dollars in 1976-77 which again increased twice to 1,226 million dollars in 1977-78 and then maintain a steady growth to touch figure of about 2.4 billion dollars in 1981-82. Regionwise analysis shows that massive flow of remittances has been from the Middle Eastern countries followed by European and African countries and USA and Canada. [Karachi DAWN in English 4 Apr 83 p 11]

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